



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH EAST

September 20, 2020  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Gregg D. Townsend, Pastor  
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**GATHERING MUSIC:** “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” Arranged by Don Wyrzten

**GREETING:** Pastor Gregg Townsend

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER**

Leader: Come, let us bow down in worship,

**Congregation: let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;**

for he is our God

**and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.**

—Psalm 95:6-7, NIV

Lord, open to us the sea of your mercy, and water us with full streams from the riches of your grace and the springs of your kindness. Make us children of quietness and heirs of peace; kindle in us the fire of your love, and strengthen our weakness by your power as we become close to you and to each other.  
**Amen.**

**\* OPENING PRAISE:** “Made to Worship”

Before the day, before the light, before the world revolved around the sun.  
God on high stepped down into time and wrote the story of His love for everyone.  
He has filled our hearts with wonder so that we always remember.

**You and I are made to worship. You and I are called to love. You and I are forgiven and free.  
When you and I embrace surrender. When you and I choose to believe.  
Then you and I will see who we were meant to be.**

All we are and all we have is all a gift from God that we receive.  
Brought to life, we open up our eyes to see the majesty and glory of the King.  
He has filled our hearts with wonder so that we always remember. **(Chorus)**

Even the rocks cry out! Even the heavens shout at the sound of His Holy name!  
So let every voice sing out, and let every knee bow down, He’s worthy of all our praise. **(Chorus)**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**O God of shalom, we have built up walls to protect ourselves from our enemies, but those walls also shut us off from receiving your love. Break down those walls. Help us to see that the way to your heart is through the reconciliation of our own hearts with our enemies. Bless them and us, that we may come to grow in love for each other and for you, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**LAMENT:** “The Power of Your Love”

Lord I come to You let my heart be changed renewed, flowing from the grace that I found in You.  
And Lord I’ve come to know the weaknesses I see in me  
Will be stripped away by the power of Your love. **(Chorus)**

**Hold me close, let Your love surround me. Bring me near, draw me to Your side.  
And as I wait, I’ll rise up like the eagle and I will soar with You.  
Your Spirit leads me on in the power of Your love.**

Lord, unveil my eyes, let me see You face to face, the knowledge of Your love as You live in me.  
Lord, renew my mind as Your will unfolds in my life in living every day by the power of Your love.  
**(Chorus)**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

**By faith I have a wholehearted trust, which the Holy Spirit creates in me by the gospel, that God has freely granted, not only to others but to me also, forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation. These are gifts of sheer grace, granted solely by Christ’s merit.**

—from Romans 3:22, NIV; Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 21

**SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Luke 9:51-56

## **MESSAGE**

**\* RESPONDING IN SONG:** “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

O soul, my soul, are you weary and troubled. No night so dark that our eyes cannot see.  
There’s light so bright as we look to our Savior.  
Life more abundant and free. Life more abundant and free.

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus; look full in His wonderful face.  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.**

God, our God, You are with us in darkness. Your Word Your light is leading us on.  
Our hearts can hear You Heavenly Father, calling us all to Your Son, calling us all to Your Son.  
**(Chorus)**

We turn our eyes to You beholding all Your beauty. You are holy.  
We turn our eyes to You beholding all Your beauty. You are holy.

For we turn our eyes upon Jesus; look full in His wonderful face.  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

In the light of His glory and grace. In the light of His glory and grace.  
In the light of His glory and grace.  
We turn our eyes to You. We turn our eyes to You.

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

**\* CLOSING SONG: “Take My Life and Let It Be”**

Take my life and let it be consecrated Lord to Thee.  
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise, let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy love.  
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee, swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always only for my King.  
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from Thee, filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect and use ev’ry pow’r as Thou shalt choose, ev’ry pow’r as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine. It shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is Thine own. It shall be Thy royal throne. It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love my Lord I pour at Thy feet its treasure store.  
Take myself and I will be ever only all for Thee, ever only all for Thee.

**\* BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE**

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## OFFLINE: OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

For our online worshippers: there are four easy ways to give your financial gift to the church:

1. Send in your financial support via the **US mail**.
2. Contact the church office (814-725-8641) to set up **direct deposit** from your bank account to the church.
3. You can also now give through **PayPal**. Just click on the link: [paypal.me/fpcne](https://paypal.me/fpcne). Or click on the “Shop Now” button on the church Facebook page, which will take you to the link.
4. Download the “**Give Plus+ Mobile**” app from the App Store. Enter our zip code (16428) and select “First Presbyterian Church.” It takes about five minutes to set up your account and connect with the church. Then simply select the ‘+’ sign at the top to add your giving.

## WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER AND DEVOTION

Join Pastor Gregg on Facebook LIVE every Wednesday evening at 7:00 P.M. for a time of prayer and devotion. Use the “Send Message” button on Facebook to submit a prayer request, or message Pastor Gregg.

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## CHURCH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**WE ARE STARTING BACK UP OUR BELL CHOIR.** Director Jane Livingston has come up with a strategy that will allow our Bell Choir to practice and play in safe and socially distant environment. Practices will be held on Thursday evenings beginning on October 1 at 6:00 PM. We’d love to have some new folks join our group. Even if you’ve never played in a Bell Choir before, we will teach you everything you need to know. It’s a great way to get involved in the church, especially during a time in which it’s difficult to fellowship with your church family. Please speak or connect with Jane for details or questions. ([jlivingston@neo.rr.com](mailto:jlivingston@neo.rr.com) or 814-504-1135).

**THE TRUSTEES ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO REMOVE SNOW** from church entrances this winter. If you know of anyone, please contact Vern Hurlburt or Pastor Gregg. The pay is \$12 per hour.

**THE MISSION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE** is asking for you to empty your closets of any gently used clothing for the clothing give-away this November. Coats are a special need. Please consider donating coats or purchasing some to donate and help clothe those in need.

**IF YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST, JOY OR CONCERN TO SHARE**, please speak with Pastor Gregg or call or text his cell phone at (814) 460-3123. You can also email our prayer chain at [jlivingston@neo.rr.com](mailto:jlivingston@neo.rr.com) or text Jane Livingston at (814) 504-1135.

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