

## Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord  
Joshua 24:15*

September 1, 2024

### THE CHURCH GATHERS

#### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRELUDE

### GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

\*CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive)*

Leader: God said, "Six days you shall labor and do all your work, But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord."

People: *Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, And I will give you rest."*

All: *We come in the name of the Spirit, resting from our labors; Let us worship God this day!*

\* HYMN # 485 (Blue Hymnal) *To God Be The Glory*

#### A LABOR DAY LITANY

Leader: O Jesus, we thank you for your care and loving concern for workers throughout the world. For workers who face dangerous conditions or hazards in their work without sufficient warning or protection,

People: *Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth, hear our prayer.*

Leader: For all those who face the conflicts of working and caring for children without adequate support,

People: *Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth, hear our prayer.*

Leader: For all workers who cannot find work and for whom unemployment assistance is not available,

People: *Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth, hear our prayer.*

Leader: For children whose childhood is cut short because they are forced to work,

People: *Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth, hear our prayer.*

Leader: For all workers whose work is taken for granted, is unappreciated or lacks meaning,

People: *Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth, hear our prayer.*

\*GLORIA PATRI - *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: World without end. Amen.*

### WE GIVE THANK OFFERINGS TO GOD

GIVING GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS  
OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY - *Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING: Matthew 25:14-30

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 4:1

THE SERMON: Dr. William D. Coker

*"Why Do We Labor and Toil?"*

\*COMMUNION HYMN #333 (Blue) *Seek Ye First*

#### THE WORDS OF INVITATION

*Why did Jesus institute The Lord's Supper during His last Passover with the Disciples? Because He knew that we are forgetful people. If we do not celebrate this special Supper on a regular basis, we will forget His Sacrifice, forget His Suffering, forget His Grace, and even forget His Love. Let us participate in this blessed Supper in a spirit of repentance and confession, teach our children what it means, hold the elements and partake together as the One Body of Christ, and always keep our hearts overflowing with thanksgiving for the greatest gift ever given. Amen.*

#### SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND PREPARATION

#### SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING - THE LORD'S 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.*

A PRAYER OF BLESSING FOR LABOR DAY (insert) *Unison*

\*HYMN (Insert) *Bringing in the Sheaves*

## \*BENEDICTION

Inspired by Colossians 3:17

When you work, work as though you work for the Lord. When you rest, rest in the sovereign grace of God. And when you celebrate, celebrate as a people with the greatest reason for love, joy, and celebration. Go now in the grace and forgiveness of our Savior, and in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you.

POSTLUDE - (\*) *We stand as we are able.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. **8 Most Significant Words: “Who will you invite to church next Sunday?”**
2. **#1 Reason to Be at First Pres: *Because we know why we’re here – to share the Real Jesus.***
3. ***We’re on a mission for God. Plan to join by Profession of Faith in Christ, Reaffirmation of Faith, or Transfer of Letter and help us make a difference for Christ in Tifton.***
4. ***Spread the word that our worship services are on “Facebook Live” and “Instagram” every Sunday.***
5. ***Invite, Invite, Invite. Your invitation may change a life for Christ. We are creating a “Culture of Invitation” here at First Pres through the following “Commitments for Christ”, which are easy ways for you to invite others:***
  - #3 – *Heartwarming worship stories.*
  - #7 – *Service jobs and ways to make a difference in the Church.*
  - #10 – *The movie “Jesus Revolution.”*
  - #12 – *A new Chancel Choir.*
6. ***Prayer List:***
  - a. *Patsy Rohrer (sister-in-law of Margaret Connor) – Chemo*
  - b. *Paul Bott (son-in-law of Allen & Debra Boyd)- as he recovers from surgery*
  - c. ***Anonymous Prayer Requests:***
    - i. *A person with Pancreatic Cancer*
    - ii. *A person with a Kidney Stone*
  - d. *The Need for Unity in Our Country*
  - e. *Israel*
  - f. *Ukraine*
  - g. *Our New 12 Commitments for Christ*
7. ***If anyone has a prayer request/need, you can fill out a prayer card and place it in the offering plate or email us at [1stprestifton@gmail.com](mailto:1stprestifton@gmail.com).***



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A)

**OUR VISION: ALWAYS BE CHRISt'S DISCIPLES**  
**OUR MISSION: TO SHARE HOW JESUS AND HIS LOVE ARE REAL THROUGH ALL CHURCH ACTIVITIES.**

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us and prosper for us the work of our hands—  
O prosper the work of our hands!  
Psalm 90:17

217 PARK AVE N, TIFTON, GA 31794  
PASTOR – DR. WILLIAM D. “*BIFF*” COKER  
229-382-6730; [1stprestifton@gmail.com](mailto:1stprestifton@gmail.com)  
[FIRSTPRESTIFTON.ORG](http://FIRSTPRESTIFTON.ORG)