

**Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost  
October 6, 2024**

**Prelude** Nenad Iovic

**Welcome** Glenn Dulko

**Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Come, come into God's loving community.

**People: We come seeking the tools, knowledge and faith to joyfully love God and share the love of Jesus.**

Leader: Come, come good friends rejoice with your hearts and souls and voice.

**People: We gather here and now rejoicing, learning, and loving together, as brothers, sisters, friends and neighbors celebrating that we are each a part of God's love here on earth.**

Leader: We gather together now...

**People: To joyfully explore, experience, and build God's love, recognize the work of the Spirit and continue the helping and healing of Jesus here in this church, this community, and all over the world. Amen.**

**Kids Church** Children are welcome to meet in the entrance area of the Anna Haep  
sanctuary for Kids Church in the Parish House.

**\*Gathering Hymn** *We Gather Together* #421 Black Hymnal

We gather together to ask for God's blessing, to live in community,  
Seeking God's will. We come now, as sisters and brothers,  
confessing the sins that divide and the wrong in us still.

Beside us, forgiving, enabling, sustaining, you call us, O Savior,  
To life that is new. You draw us away from self-centered complaining,  
You lead us and guide us in ways that are true.

All praise to the Spirit, provider, defender. You offer us freedom,  
to follow or stray, Empowering all the hope you engender.  
Grant wisdom and courage to follow your way.

**\*Passing the Peace**

**Stewardship Testimony** Penny Rogers

**Service of Prayer**

Joys and concerns / Prayers of the People  
Pastoral Prayer and Silent Prayer  
The Lord's Prayer (debts)

**Offering**

Call to Offering

Choir Anthem *Gather by the River to Pray* Arr. Pepper Choplin Faye Chen & Choir

**\*Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; (or) Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise God for all that love has done;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Praise Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Hymn** *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* #335 Red Hymnal

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and grief to bear!  
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Do thy friends despise, for sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee, thou will find a solace there. Amen.

**Scripture** *Genesis 2:18-23* (pg. 2 of your pew Bible)

**Sermon** *You've Got a Friend*

**\*Closing Hymn** *You've Got a Friend* Carole King

When you're down and troubled and you need a helping hand  
And nothin', no nothin' is goin' right close your eyes and think of me  
And soon I will be there to brighten up even your darkest night

You just call out my name and you know, wherever I am  
I'll come runnin' to see you again  
Winter, spring, summer or fall all you have to do is call  
And I'll be there You've got a friend

If the sky above you should grow dark and full of clouds  
And that old north wind begins to blow keep your head together  
And call my name out loud soon, you'll hear me knockin' upon your door

You just call out my name and you know, wherever I am  
I'll come runnin', to see you again  
Winter, spring, summer or fall all you have to do is call  
And I'll be there, yes, I will

Now, ain't it good to know that you've got a friend when some people can be so cold.  
They'll hurt you, and desert you and take your soul if you let them  
Oh, but don't you let them you just call out my name  
And you know, wherever I am I'll come runnin', to see you again  
Winter, spring, summer or fall all you have to do is call And I'll be there, yes, I will  
You've got a friend You've got a friend

**Benediction**

**Threefold Amen**

**Postlude**

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*



## **We are on our way!!!**

Every step a new beginning,  
Every path a new adventure,  
What a road we have traveled,  
What a journey we are on!

Thanks for staying with us, supporting us, joining us, worshipping with us, laughing with us, being patient with us, staying for coffee hour with us. And thanks for hoping, praying and believing in us.

The First Church of Christ, Woodbridge, is growing and changing. We have new people and new programs. We have innovations and renovations happening. Our older members have a new spring in their step. It feels good to be renewed and to look forward with eagerness to what is transpiring and improving. We're glad you're here. We hope you feel the spirit.

We are asking for your pledge for 2025. Pledges help us budget for the upcoming year. Please be as generous as you have always been. Or you can be more generous if you are inspired by our enthusiasm and commitment! All pledges are used to do good works and God's work. An excellent investment!

Return your pledge cards in the envelope provided or bring them to church on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Pledge Sunday, when we will dedicate all of our gifts. Thank you in advance, not just for your gifts but for the gift of you.

You are God's light shining!

Faithfully,

~The Stewardship Committee