

First Presbyterian Church of Sandpoint, Idaho

August 23, 2026, 11:00 a.m., 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Catherine Lyle, Pastor; Annie Welle, Piano

Mary Sturgis, Worship Leader; Rae Charlton & Sylvia Humes, Ushers; Sue Helander, Livestream

PRELUDE MUSIC, LIVESTREAM BEGINS

LIGHT THE CHRIST CANDLE, WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS

RING THE BELL, MOMENT OF SILENCE

CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God, come into this sacred space where Christ still asks, “Who do you say that I am?”

We gather from many places and many stories to proclaim together: You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.

In a world filled with countless voices and competing truths, we listen for the One who reveals wisdom not through flesh and blood, but through the Spirit.

Blessed are we when God opens our hearts to know Christ more deeply.

Christ, our Rock, builds a community where all are welcome, all are valued, and all are called to belong.

We stand together on this foundation of grace, hope, and courage.

Come, let us worship the One who entrusts us with the keys of the kingdom—inviting us to participate in healing, justice, mercy, and liberation.

We gather to praise the living God and to walk in the authority Christ gives, building a community where every person can flourish.

*OPENING HYMN #368 “I’ve Got Peace Like a River”

*OPENING PRAYER AND RESPONSIVE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.** Thanks be to God!

*SUNG RESPONSE #577 “Glory Be to the Father”

Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen....

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 124, Matthew 16:13-20

CHILDREN’S MOMENT *Mostly What God Does Is Love You* by Savannah Guthrie

WORDS OF WITNESS “Who Is Jesus to You” Catherine Lyle, Pastor

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #2219 “Goodness Is Stronger than Evil” (*Sing the Faith*)

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY Lord in your mercy...**hear our 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.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY #593 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen. Amen....

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN #2282 “I’ll Fly Away” (*Sing the Faith*)

*CHARGE, BENEDICTION, FOLLOW THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

We are a congregation of people

Loving, living, learning the joy of faith.

POSTLUDE, LIVESTREAM CONCLUDES

WORDS TO SONGS

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I’ve Got Peace Like a River

I’ve got peace like a river,
I’ve got peace like a river,
I’ve got peace like a river in-a my soul.

I’ve got joy like a fountain,
I’ve got joy like a fountain,
I’ve got joy like a fountain in-a my soul.

I’ve got love like an ocean,
I’ve got love like an ocean,
I’ve got love like an ocean in-a my soul.

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

Goodness is stronger than evil;
Love is stronger than hate;
Light is stronger than darkness;
Life is stronger than death.

Victory is ours, victory is ours
Through him who loved us.
Victory is ours, victory is ours
Through him who loved us.

I’ll Fly Away

Some glad morning when this life is o’er,
I’ll fly away;
To a home on God’s celestial shore,
I’ll fly away.

Refrain

I’ll fly away, O glory, I’ll fly away.
When I die, hallelujah, by and by,
I’ll fly away.

When the shadows of this life have gone,
I’ll fly away;
Like a bird from prison bars has flown,
I’ll fly away.

Refrain

Just a few more weary days and then,
I’ll fly away;
To a land where joys shall never end,
I’ll fly away.

Refrain