

# Philippians

TO LIVE IS CHRIST



**CALVARY**  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

**September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

# Gathering

*During the Prelude we invite you to greet one another with love outside the Chapel, and allow those within to meditate, pray or just listen.*

Prelude “Pass the Keg, Lia”

by Chip Davis

Welcome

\*Call to Worship (from Psalm 103)

\*congregation please stand in body or spirit

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul.

**People: Let all that is within us bless God’s holy name.**

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul.

**People: Let us not forget all God’s benefits.**

Leader: The Lord forgives our sin, heals and redeems us.

**People: The Lord crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.**

Leader: The Lord satisfies us with good as long as we live.

**People: The Lord renews our strength.**

**Bless the Lord, O my soul!**

\*Opening Hymn #343 “Called as Partners in Christ's Service”

Poem “A fixer”

Author Unknown

A fixer has the illusion of being causal.  
A server knows he or she is being used  
in the service of something greater,  
essentially unknown

We fix something specific.  
We serve always the something:  
wholeness and the mystery of life.

Fixing and helping are the work of the ego.  
Serving is the work of the soul.  
When you help, you see life as weak.  
When you fix, you see life as broken.  
When you serve, you see life as whole.

Fixing and helping may cure.  
Serving heals.

When I help, I feel satisfaction.  
When I serve, I feel gratitude.

Fixing is a form of judgment.  
Serving is a form of connection.

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

**Merciful Savior, you have modeled for us unity, humility, obedience, and love. We confess that too often we fall short of reflecting these attributes to the world. Forgive us, we pray, when we are proud and haughty, thinking of others as beneath us. Forgive our tendency to grasp rather than to share generously. Forgive our dismissal of human suffering as if it is of no concern to us. Grant us, instead, a heart that is willing to be poured out for the sake of others, just as you were poured out for us.**

### Time for Silent Confession

### Assurance of Pardon

**Leader:** The mercy of God never fails; it is from everlasting to everlasting. Friends, this is Good News:

**People:** **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\*Music Response #2161 “To Know You More” vs. 2 -3

### Passing of the Peace of Christ

**Leader:** May the peace of Christ be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

## The Word

### Prayer for Illumination

Scriptures: Philippians 2:1-11

**Leader:** Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church!

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon “The Paradox of Greatness & Servanthood”

\*Hymn #2237 “As a Fire Is Meant for Burning”

Time for Response to the Sermon

Joys and Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

Leader: Lord in your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayers**

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Announcements

## **Sending**

\*Closing Hymn #2241 “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

\*Benediction

Postlude

*Feel free to stand, chat and generally share in Fellowship as the Postlude sends us out into the world in Love.*

We welcome all who worship with us this day. May you experience God’s presence and find inspiration for your journey of faith. This morning the leaders in worship are:

**Rev. Michelle Fincher**, Pastor; **Kent Lemburg**, Guest Musician;

**Katherine Huff**; Liturgist; **Ryan Hodel**, Zoom Host

**Offering** - *We collect the offering in the following ways:*

- 1. Leave your offerings and pledges in the offering plate at the entrance of the chapel;*
- 2. Make a one-time donation online through our website: [calvarypresdenver.org](http://calvarypresdenver.org);*
- 3. Set up a regular donation online through the website. Your financial generosity and gifts of time help make our ministry in the community vibrant!*