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| PRELUDE Allegro, ma non troppo (from Sonata in A, Op. 101) Ludwig van Beethoven This Is My Father's World | Kevin Chunko |
| WELCOME & LIFE TOGETHER CHORAL INTROIT Come, All Ye Servants of the Lord | Mackenzie Jager Chapel Choir |
| CALL to WORSHIP There is no one like you, God, nor are there any works like yours. All the peoples you have made shall come and bow down before you and glorify your name. For you are great and do wonderful things. You alone are God! | Mackenzie Jager |
| CALL to CONFESSION PRAYER of CONFESSION Awesome and compassionate God, you have loved us with unfailing, self-giving mercy, but we have not loved you. You call us, but we do not listen. You ask us to love, but we walk away from our neighbors in need. We accept evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed as normal. God of grace, in your presence, we admit that we are guilty! | |
| ASSURANCE of PARDON But this is the good news: Our God is faithful and compassionate forever. Like a father and a mother, God will not abandon us or give up on us. God will forgive and welcome us home again and again. In wartime and peacetime, in drought, famine, and times of plenty, even if the mountains fall into the sea, our God's love and mercy will not fail. Thanks be to God! | |
| PASSING of the PEACE | Mackenzie Jager |
| *SONG of the DAY Now Thank We All Our God, No. 555 | Congregational Singing |
| FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 47 | Rev. Rosemary Dodson |
| WORD in SONG Oseh Shalom | Aiden Morris |
| SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Esther 1 | Mackenzie Jager |
| MESSAGE Life in the Empire | Mackenzie Jager |
| *HYMN Day is Done, No. 544 | Congregartional Singing |
| PRAYERS of the PEOPLE | Mackenzie Jager |
| *HYMN This Is My Father's World, No. 293 | Congregational Singing |
| BENEDICTION | Mackenzie Jager |
| POSTLUDE Allegro maestoso e vivace (from Sonata II, op. 65) Felix Mendelssohn | Kevin Chunko |

Psalm 47

- Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with loud songs of joy.
- For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,
a great king over all the earth.
- He subdued peoples under us,
and nations under our feet.
- He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.
- God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
- Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
- For God is the king of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm.
- God is king over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.
- The princes of the peoples gather
as the people of the God of Abraham.
For the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is highly exalted.

Esther 1

¹This happened in the days of Ahasuerus, the same Ahasuerus who ruled over one hundred twenty-seven provinces from India to Ethiopia. ²In those days when King Ahasuerus sat on his royal throne in the citadel of Susa, ³in the third year of his reign, he gave a banquet for all his officials and ministers. The army of Persia and Media and the nobles and governors of the provinces were present, ⁴while he displayed the great wealth of his kingdom and the splendor and pomp of his majesty for many days, one hundred eighty days in all.

⁵When these days were completed, the king gave for all the people present in the citadel of Susa, both great and small, a banquet lasting for seven days, in the court of the garden of the king's palace. ⁶There were white cotton curtains and blue hangings tied with cords of fine linen and purple to silver rings and marble pillars. There were couches of gold and silver on a mosaic pavement of porphyry, marble, mother-of-pearl, and colored stones. ⁷Drinks were served in golden goblets, goblets of different kinds, and the royal wine was lavished according to the bounty of the king. ⁸Drinking was by flagons, without restraint; for the king had given orders to all the officials of his palace to do as each one desired. ⁹Furthermore, Queen Vashti gave a banquet for the women in the palace of King Ahasuerus.

Esther 1 *continued*

¹⁰On the seventh day, when the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha and Abagtha, Zethar and Carkas, the seven eunuchs who attended him, ¹¹to bring Queen Vashti before the king, wearing the royal crown, in order to show the peoples and the officials her beauty; for she was fair to behold. ¹²But Queen Vashti refused to come at the king's command conveyed by the eunuchs. At this the king was enraged, and his anger burned within him.

¹³Then the king consulted the sages who knew the laws (for this was the king's procedure toward all who were versed in law and custom, ¹⁴and those next to him were Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memucan, the seven officials of Persia and Media, who had access to the king, and sat first in the kingdom): ¹⁵“According to the law, what is to be done to Queen Vashti because she has not performed the command of King Ahasuerus conveyed by the eunuchs?” ¹⁶Then Memucan said in the presence of the king and the officials, “Not only has Queen Vashti done wrong to the king, but also to all the officials and all the peoples who are in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus. ¹⁷For this deed of the queen will be made known to all women, causing them to look with contempt on their husbands, since they will say, ‘King Ahasuerus commanded Queen Vashti to be brought before him, and she did not come.’ ¹⁸This very day the noble ladies of Persia and Media who have heard of the queen's behavior will rebel against the king's officials, and there will be no end of contempt and wrath! ¹⁹If it pleases the king, let a royal order go out from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes so that it may not be altered, that Vashti is never again to come before King Ahasuerus; and let the king give her royal position to another who is better than she. ²⁰So when the decree made by the king is proclaimed throughout all his kingdom, vast as it is, all women will give honor to their husbands, high and low alike.”

²¹This advice pleased the king and the officials, and the king did as Memucan proposed; ²²he sent letters to all the royal provinces, to every province in its own script and to every people in its own language, declaring that every man should be master in his own house.

ACE THIS MONTH

New six week series from Sept 18–Oct 23

God in Government:

The Historic US Relationship Between Church and State

Week 1: Scripture, Augustine, Luther

Week 2: Calvin

Week 3: Earliest Colonies, Puritans, and Roger Williams

Week 4: Locke, State Established Religions,
and The Constitution Article 6 & 1st Amendment

Week 5: Washington, Jefferson, and the founding fathers

Week 6: Key Supreme Court Decisions

EVENTS COMING UP

Table Theology - Kid's Min

Thursday, September 22

5:00–7:00 PM

Theology at the Table invites Jr High and Sr. High students to meet with Jamie Bishop family ministry director and one of our pastors for dinner at Chik-Fil-A Thursday Sept 22 at 6pm. Dinner will be provided..

TRUNK or TREAT

Friday, October 28 @ Second Pres in the Jefferson St. Lot

5:00–7:00 PM

Second Pres will host this year's Trunk or Treat for the kids!

More details to come soon!

HELPING HANDS

Saturday, November 12 from 9:00–12:00 PM

Second Half will be hosting the Helping Hands Fall Clean up Saturday, November 12, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. If any members would like assistance with leaf raking, light yard work, or repotting, please call either Kim at Church, or Shelly Gant at 1-309-963-4361, or by email: thegants@frontiernet.net.

We don't do roof repair, driveway or sidewalk repair, remodeling, etc.

JOY TRIP: "Christmas: Past, Present, and Future

Sunday, November 20 at The Barn III in Goodfield, IL

\$50 per person or \$100 per couple. Includes theatre ticket, meal, taxes, and gratuity. Carpool leaves Second Pres at 11:30 AM. Show starts at 1:30 PM. Please contact Ruth Oesch to sign up.

Ruth Oesch: 309-824-7379. Sign up by October 21. 32 spaces available.

HAPPENING EVERY WEEK

EVERY SUNDAY:

8:00 am Chapel Worship

10:30 am Sanctuary Service

9:15 am • Children's Sunday School

• Sunday Brunch Grab & Go

• ACE (Adult Christian Education)

EVERY TUESDAY:

8:30 am: Morning Men's Bible Study

EVERY WEDNESDAY:

6:00–7:30 pm: K–6 Kid's Min

6:30–8:00pm: Chapel Choir Rehearsals

EVERY THURSDAY

11:30 am: Thursday Prayer Lunch



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Welcome!

Life in the Empire

Mackenzie Jager

Sunday, September 18, 2022

10:30 AM Service