

Dear All,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

This coming Sunday, August 2, is the Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost! We will be celebrating Communion. If you will be worshipping from home, I invite you to gather together the elements so that you can partake with us. Find bread, crackers, tortillas, or any other grain-based food and wine, grape juice, or any other beverage that is meaningful to you.

We will be meeting Jacob again, following that beautiful dream and then some challenges in his love life that we heard about in last week's Hebrew Bible lesson. This time we will encounter him in a wrestling match with a stranger who may or may not have been God! In preparation for Sunday, I invite you to reflect on times when you have struggled with God. What are the experiences that lead us to question God and challenge God? How do we find resolution?

We will continue our practice of hybrid worship. This means that you are welcome to join us in person and that you are welcome to join us from home, whatever works best for you. If you are able to access technology for online worship, we will be live streaming the service via Youtube and Facebook.



For Youtube Live, please go to our channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPh2zjtSFxk2uo9_YWEusCQ/, subscribe to it, and enable notifications. The live video should be up and running just before the service starts. If you watch later, click on our channel and then select “Live” videos. You can also watch afterward on our website at: <https://fpchighland.org/worship>.

For Facebook Live, please go to our page here: <https://www.facebook.com/firstpchighland/> around the start of worship. A recording of the service will remain on our Facebook page if you want to watch later.

As always, I have included worship materials, including the bulletin, readings, hymns, a sermon, and creative activities for disciples of all ages.

I leave you with these words from *Genesis*:

Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me."

In Christ and with Love,

Rev. Tyler Orem

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