

Dear All,

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

This coming Sunday, September 17, is the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost, or as we have been celebrating a full season, the Seventeenth Sunday *of* Pentecost. If weather permits (and sound from the park!) we will be worshipping outside in our beautiful garden. Come with a comfortable chair and comfortable clothes. We have extra chairs if needed. After our worship service, we will be having a church-wide luncheon to mark the start of a new program year, celebrate the trustees' work in renewing the garden path, and have our follow-up conversation on ideas from May's visioning luncheon. Come for food, fellowship, and fruitful discussion about our church's journey! Please do try to come if at all possible!



Scripturally, we will still be on holy ground as Moses and YHWH continue their world-changing conversation around the burning bush. We will see Moses further resisting his call, and we will see YHWH further equipping Moses. In preparation for Sunday, I invite you to reflect on times when you have felt inadequate for something to which God has called you. If that sense of inadequacy changed, what was it that made you feel more confident? If that feeling of inadequacy still haunts you sometimes, what would empower you today?

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 10:30 AM Central. 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 10:30 AM Central. We will also post a recording of the service later in the day.

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

I leave you with these words from *Exodus*:

The Lord said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A staff." And he said, "Throw it on the ground." So he threw the staff on the ground, and it became a snake, and Moses drew back from it. Then the Lord said to Moses, "Reach out your hand and seize it by the tail"—so he reached out his hand and grasped it, and it became a staff in his hand.

In Christ and with Love,

Rev. Tyler Orem