

About the Choir’s Hymns Today:
For the Troubles and the Sufferings (Pelás dores deste mundo)
By Rodolfo Gaede Neto (b. 1951) | Harmony by Jorge Lockward
Translated by Jorge Lockward and Simeí Monteiro (b. 1943)

“For the Troubles and the Sufferings” is a Brazilian hymn which became popular after its use at the 2006 Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Porto Alegre. It was composed in 1998 by a Lutheran pastor and professor, Dr. Rodolfo Gaede Neto. He serves as Professor of Practical Theology at the Lutheran seminary in São Leopoldo, Brazil. Dr. Gaede Neto is also a choral director and leads the vocal group, “Anima,” which means “animate” or “animated.” Today’s introit was translated by Jorge Lockward, a Dominican music director, church musician, and seminary professor who is currently based out of New York City and prominent Brazilian poet Simeí Monteiro. Simeí was born in Belém, PA, Brazil; she completed a triple major during college in Portuguese, French, and literature. She then studied artistic education in graduate school. In addition to writing poetry and translating, Mrs. Monteiro is also a composer, author, and editor. She wrote a book, *The Song of Life*, which explores the relationship between hymnody and theology. Prior to 2010, Simeí served as a United Methodist missionary in Geneva, Switzerland. I have written out a very direct translation of Rodolfo Gaede Neto’s Portuguese lyrics below. Both the Portuguese and English lyrics (translated by Jorge and Simeí) can be found in our hymnal at #764. The original hymn ends with the Latin prayer, “Kyrie eleison,” which is translated, “God have mercy.”

For the sufferings of this world, O Lord, we implore mercy.
Creation groans at the same time.
Let Your ears be inclined to the cry of these oppressed people.
Hasten to Your salvation.

May Your peace, blessed and united with justice,
embrace the whole world.
Have mercy!
May Your power sustain the testimony of Your people.
May Your Kingdom come! Kyrie eleison!

Christ Be Beside Me by James Quinn, SJ (1919-2010)
Gaelic melody | Arranged by Dale Grotenhuis and
Beverly A. Howard
The anthem today, “Christ Be Beside Me,” is an adaptation of a traditional Irish prayer often called “St. Patrick’s Breastplate.” A prayer for protection is known as a lorica, from the Latin word for “breastplate” or “armor.” This adaptation was written by a Scottish Roman Catholic Jesuit priest, Reverend James Quinn. He wrote at least forty-nine hymn texts and worked as a translator, adapter, and versifier on many others including English, Latin, Spanish, and Chinese texts. The Gaelic tune BUNESSAN became very popular in the 1970s with the text, “Morning Has Broken.” I decided to join two of the three arrangements of this tune included in our hymnal. Full anthem lyrics can be read at #702 in the hymnal.

| ANNOUNCEMENTS | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Today | Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad | |
| Tuesday September 30 | Handbells 5:00pm | Ladies Dinner 6:00pm |
| Wednesday October 1 | Youth 6:00pm | |
| Thursday October 2 | Bible Study 10:30am | Choir 4:30pm |
| Saturday October 4 | Sat. Lunch Ministry 11:30am | |

CROP WALK – OCTOBER 5 – WON’T YOU HELP THE HUNGRY?
The CROP Hunger Walk is an initiative supported by our church through donations only; no funds are allocated from the Missions Committee budget. Checks should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church with CROP Walk noted in the memo line. Donations can be placed in the offering plate or given directly to Vickie or Jackie Rochford. Members of FPC have consistently been significant contributors in Danville. Please continue to open your hearts to our brothers and sisters most in need.

| SERVING TODAY | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Minister of Discipleship | Jackson Weller |
| Music Director | Ashley Stanley-Robey |
| Sound | C.B. Strange |
| Video | Alex Walthall |
| Liturgist | Jay Hayes |
| Greeter | Joan Reynolds |
| Side door/Offering | |

List of Session members
Class of 2025: David Clark, Sam Meadema, Eddie Blount, Jackie Rochford
Class of 2026: Barry Cutright, Gail Jones, Kim Wimer, Ava Barrett
Class of 2027: Barbara Wilkins, Joan Reynolds, Pat Pinckney, Kent Shelton
Trustees: Bob Newnam(27), Ray Beale(26), Gary Wimer(25)

| BUDGET UPDATE | | |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| | August 1-31 | FY 2025 |
| Contributions | \$20,849.32 | \$278,044.35 |
| Expenditures | \$25,505.81 | \$278,094.64 |
| Difference | (-\$ 4,656.49) | (-\$ 50.29) |

If you enter the hospital, your church will have no way of knowing unless you notify us. Please let us know of your hospital stay so that we may respond with pastoral care.

A Warm Welcome
We would love to have you join our church family. If you are moved to do so by the Lord, please talk to one of the elders or our pastor.

The flowers in the chancel today are in honor of Erin Parris for her service and dedication to First Presbyterian Dayschool as a student, teacher, and director. These are lovingly given to her by the Dayschool and Christian Education Committees.

*THE COLUMNS
OF THE*
First Presbyterian Church
Danville, Virginia
September 28, 2025
16th Sunday after Pentecost



Welcome
**This church opens wide its doors and offers welcome
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

***Celebrating 198 Years of Knowing Christ
and Making Him Known***

First Presbyterian Church
937 Main Street, Danville, VA 24541-1809—434-792-7822
E-Mail: admin@fpcdanville.com
Website: http://www.fpcdanville.com

A Service for the Worship of God

GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad to them.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR DAY SCHOOL

CHORAL INTROIT “For the Troubles and the Sufferings”

(Pelas dores deste mundo) by Rodolfo Gaede Neto, harmony by Jorge Lockward

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 146)

Leader: Come! Praise the Lord!

People: Praise God for the heavens and the earth and all that is in them!

Leader: Come! Praise the Lord!

People: Praise God who feeds the hungry and uplifts the downtrodden!

Leader: Come! Praise the Lord!

People: Praise God who gives sight to the blind and sets prisoners free!

Leader: Come! Praise the Lord!

People: The Lord will reign forever! Praise the Lord!

INVOCATION

Loving God, we praise you for all you have given us, for all you have done for us, for all that you are to us. In our weakness, you are strength, in our darkness, you are light, in our sorrow, you are comfort and peace. We cannot number your blessings, we cannot declare your love: For all your blessings, we bless you. May we live as in your presence, and love the things that you love, and serve you in our daily lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*HYMN#275 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you call us to lives of service, but we confess that we ignore our neighbors in need right outside our door. You call us to share our abundance, but we confess that we choose our own comfort over generosity to others. You call us to build community, but we confess that we are too often gatekeepers, letting in only the ones that make us comfortable. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to be content with enough and inspire us to share what we have – our prosperity, our power and our love – until all your children have life and dignity in beloved community. Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ prays for us. Christ reaches out with endless love and mercy. Friends, believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made ready to love and serve. Alleluia. Amen.

SIGNS OF RECONCILIATION

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us the children of God, having confessed our sins and been reconciled to God, having been assured of God's graciousness and mercy, stand and offer that same peace and reconciliation to our brothers and sisters in Christ, forgiving each other and offering grace and peace.

Please remain standing for the “Gloria Patri.”

***RESPONSE** “Gloria Patri”
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

We are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share the gifts that have been shared with us. In our sharing, we make our actions our prayer that our neighbors might know God’s abundant love. Let us consider the gifts we give in grateful praise.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All that we have is a gift from you. Lord, bless these gifts and inspire us to use them in ways that transform and enliven your people. May they be a blessing to those who need them most. Amen.

OFFERTORY "Nearer, My God, to Thee" BETHANY
by Lowell Mason/Setting by Jason W. Krug

*DOXOLOGY

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER
ANTHEM "Christ Be Beside Me" by James Quinn,
SJ/Gaelic melody, arr. Dale Grotenhuis and Beverly A. Howard

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of wonder, as we hear your Word for us today, fill us with holy imagination. Help us hear your holy invitation and ignite within us a passion to live your truth and follow your way. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: (561/592) Jeremiah 32:1-3a,6-15
(841/883) 1 Timothy 6:6-19
(741/779) Luke 16:19-31

SERMON “Fields of Faith, Hope in a Besieged World”
Jackson Weller

***HYMN#630** “Fairest Lord Jesus”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Nicene Creed
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

POSTLUDE "Joyful!" Beethoven/Croft,
arr. Ruth E. Schram

*BENEDICTION

***Please stand if able.**