



Service of Midday Prayer

Wednesday, August 19, 2020

First Presbyterian Church

OPENING SENTENCES

Our help is in the name of the Lord *Ps. 124:8*
maker of heaven and earth.

Jesus says: You are the light of the world. *Matt. 5:14, 16*
Let your light shine before others.

Praise the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

PSALM
(Hymn 214)

Psalm 31

Tune: MORNING SONG

1. You are my refuge, faithful God; you shelter me from shame.
I put my spirit in your hands and call upon your name.
2. Deliver me from hidden snares, from sorrow, pain, and strife.
When troubles seem to smother me, take heed, and save my life!
3. Be gracious, God, in my distress, and dry my bitter tears.
My life is spent in misery; I sigh away my years.
4. I am a wretched sight to see: a broken, empty thing.
With only terror all around, and deathly whispering.
5. And yet I trust in you, O God; your covenant still stands.
Redeem me, in your faithful love: my life is in your hands.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 7: 13-29

The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

Sung Response:

***You shall not live by bread alone
But by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God
Allelu, Alleluia!***

REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Beatitudes for a Matthew 25 Congregation,
based on Matt. 5:1-12 and the three Matthew 25 priorities of the Presbyterieian Church (U.S.A.)*

Blessed are those who serve the poor,
they will be called the children of God.

Systemic Poverty

Blessed are those who share the wealth,
they will be called the children of God.

Blessed are those who work for good,
they will be called the children of God.

Blessed are those who open doors,
they will be called the children of God.

Structural Racism

Blessed are those who break down walls,
they will be called the children of God.

Blessed are those who challenge hate,
they will be called the children of God.

Blessed are those who live their faith,
they will be called the children of God.

Congregational Vitality

Blessed are those who speak the truth,
they will be called the children of God.

Blessed are those who show Christ's love,
they will be called the children of God.

1. My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**

2. When darkness seems to hide his face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]
3. His oath, his covenant, his blood
support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]
4. When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne. [Refrain]

DISMISSAL

God is with us in Jesus Christ.

Matt. 1:23

Amen.

Bless the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.