



Service of Midday Prayer

Wednesday, April 28, 2021
First Presbyterian Church, Gathered Online

Opening Sentences

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

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; 1 Jn. 4:7-8
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.
Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

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

Prayer of Confession and Assurance 1 Jn. 1:8-9, 1 Jn 1:7

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our brokenness.

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Silent Confession

If we walk in the light of God, we have fellowship with one another, and in Christ we find liberation from all sin. In the name of Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and freed! **Amen.**

Hymn 736

I Want to Be as Close to You

DAVIDSON

1. I want to be as close to you as she who gave you birth.
Christ Jesus, let my "yes," like hers, bring blessings on our earth.
2. I want to be as close to you as was beloved John.
Christ, let me follow where you lead, by trust and friendship drawn.
3. I want to be as close to you as Magdalene who went,

Proclaiming news of death's defeat, your first apostle sent.

4. You want to be as close to me as mother, brother, friend.
Christ, keep me faithful to your love, a love that has no end.
5. Like Mary, John, and Magdalene, make us disciples true.
Like mother, brother, sister, friend, Christ, keep us close to you.

Scripture Lesson

1 John 5:1-6

For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Hymn 300 They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

1. We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

Refrain:

**And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

2. We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
3. We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
We will work with each other; we will work side by side,
And we'll guard human dignity and save human pride:
4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:

Dismissal

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.
The God of peace be with us. **Amen.**
Bless the Lord. **The Lord's name be praised.**

1 Jn 3:18