



Service of Midday Prayer

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

First Presbyterian Church

OPENING SENTENCES

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Maker of heaven and earth.

Remove the sandals from your feet,

For the place on which you are standing is holy ground.

The Lord is my strength and my might,

And has become my salvation.

Ps. 124:8

Ex. 3:5

Ex. 15:2

PSALM 106 (Hymn 60)

ST. MAGNUS

1. Your endless love, your mighty acts surpass what words can tell;
Lord, may the joys your people know be mine to share as well.
2. Our rebel forebears rarely grasped your mercy or your might;
We need your mercy, just like them: we, too, do wrong not right.
3. Before a golden calf they bowed --an idol in your place!--
Until, by Moses' faithful prayer, you drew them back to grace.
4. But when they spurned the promised land, you made your anger plain:

They wandered long on desert paths, and served the Baals again.

5. Yet those whom once you sold in wrath, in mercy you restored;
May we, like them, be gathered in to thank and praise you, Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of Aaron, Miriam, and Moses,
you stayed the hand of your wrath
when we fell into idolatry and discord;
and when we forgot our deliverance,
your love for us remained unchanging.
Transform us and our world
into a place of justice, love, and peace.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE Exodus 32: 1-14

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sung Response:

***Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!
God has brought forth Israel into joy from sadness,
Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters;
Led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.***

REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

HYMN 345

In an Age of Twisted Values

CHURCH UNITED

1. In an age of twisted values we have lost the truth we need.
In sophisticated language we have justified our greed.

By our struggle for possessions we have robbed the poor and weak.
Hear our cry and heal our nation; your forgiveness, Lord, we seek.

2. We have built discrimination on our prejudice and fear.
Hatred swiftly turns to cruelty if we hold resentments dear.
For communities divided by the walls of class and race,
Hear our cry and heal our nation; show us, Lord your love and grace.
3. When our families are broken, when our homes are full of strife,
When our children are bewildered, when they lose their way in life,
When we fail to give the aged all the care we know they need,
Hear our cry and heal our nation; help us show more love, we plead.
4. We who hear your word so often choose so rarely to obey.
Turn us from our willful wandering; give us truth to light our way.
In the power of your Spirit, come to cleanse us, make us new;
Hear our cry and heal our nation till our nation honors you.

DISMISSAL

The Lord will reign forever and ever.

Ex. 15:18

Amen.

Bless the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.