

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, July 12, 2020

The Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Presbyterian Church Gathered on Facebook Live

10:30 A.M.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God's word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

**We gather around table, font, and pulpit to root ourselves in the sacred story
And to grow in faith.**

God's teachings are our heritage; they bring understanding to searching hearts.

We gather in God's presence to offer our thanks and praise!

*OPENING PRAYER

God, our creator and sustainer. We come into your presence to be reminded that all life comes from you. We thank you that you have planted seeds of hope and love in each of us. Guide us as we sing and pray and hear your word, that we may grow in understanding of your purpose for our lives. Amen.

*HYMN 32

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

- 1. I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines forth at God's command, and all the stars obey.*
- 2. I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures through his word and then pronounced them good.
Lord how thy wonders are displayed, where e'er I turn my eye,
If I survey the ground I tread or gaze upon the sky!*
- 3. There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known.*

*And clouds arise and tempests blow; by order from thy throne.
While all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.*

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Leader: May God be with you in worship there.

Congregation: **May God be with you in worship there.**

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Lord, we do not understand our own actions. You have created us in your image, but when we are caught up in the troubles and difficulties of our lives, we sometimes forget to notice the love and hope that you have implanted in us. But with you there is forgiveness, with you there is unconditional love. Hear us as we humbly confess the ways that we have not lived into your love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, too often we speak without pausing to seek your wisdom. We assume our own goodness and fail to question our limited knowledge and understanding. We hurt others with our hasty, often well intended, words and actions. We falsely believe our ways are your ways and condemn those who disagree with us. In this tumultuous time, turn us toward you. Light our way and give us ears to hear your guidance. Forgive our failings. Take our faltering attempts at faithfulness and use them to lead us to your paths of life. Amen.

Silence is kept for personal prayer

POURING OF THE WATERS & DECLARATION OF PROMISE AND FORGIVENESS

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Friends, believe this good news, through Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

*THE GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

GREATOREX

*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. Amen.*

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 543, refrain sung twice)

FOR EVERYONE BORN

Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion, and peace:

Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord Christ, you teach in parables, telling stories in ways that draw us in and reveal God's will. As we crowd around you this day, eager to hear your word to us, we ask for the ears to hear and not only hear, but to understand and not only to understand, but to act on that which you long for us to know in the depths of our being. Amen

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalm 119

"Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet"

Michael W. Smith

Here ends the Psalm. **Amen**

Matthew 13: 1-8; 18-23

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

SERMON

Dennis Jewett

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

adapted from The Confession of Belbar

**We believe in God--the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
who gathers, protects and cares for the church.**

**We believe the church is one worldwide communion of saints,
called from the entire human family.**

**We believe the church is the single community of believers,
reconciled with God and with one another.**

We believe that through the working of God's Spirit, unity is a binding force.

**We believe that the sin of division, separation and hatred between people and groups
has been conquered by Christ.**

We commit ourselves to protecting the unity of the church universal.

We pledge to make this unity active in all of our words, thoughts and deeds.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

A SOWER CAME FROM ANCIENT HILLS

SEACRIST

WILL JONES, BARTONE

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of grace, you invite us to your table and welcome us as part of your family. We thank you for these gifts. Now send us out into the world by the power of your Spirit that we may be your witnesses, sharing the life-giving news of the gospel. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 250

In the Bulb there is a Flower

HYMN OF PROMISE

- 1. In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

2. *There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

3. *In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity:
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

**Rise in body or spirit*

Liturgical Sources Used:

Call to Worship, Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Jill Duffield, *Presbyterian Outlook*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

PREACHING

. Dennis Jewett, Minister of Music

PRESIDING AT THE TABLE

Rev. David Madewell

ASSISTING

*Jeff Moles, Director of Christian Education
Stephanie Dubé, Director of Youth Ministries & Weekday School*

MUSICIANS

*Patrick Ritsch, Organist
Ava Wiggins, soprano
Will Jones, baritone*