

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 14, 2016

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn Sing (9:45)

Concerns of the Church

Prelude

“Here I Am, Lord”

arr. John Carter

Lizzie Worrell, pianist

Call to Worship

God gives justice to the weak and the orphan;

God rescues the weak and the needy.

Blessed be the one, holy and living God, now and forever.

Let us worship God!

* Hymn 634

“To God be the Glory”

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

God of goodness and truth,

we have failed to seek after your wisdom

and have followed paths that have led away from you.

Forgive our foolish ways,

and lead us in your truth,

that we may live in the fullness of life

as you intend through Christ our Lord. Amen.

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon

* Passing of the Peace

* Response 390

“Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!”

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's holy name. Alleluia! (repeat)

Praise God's holy name. Alleluia! Praise God's holy name. Alleluia! (repeat)

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Hebrews 11:29-12:2 (NT, p. 226)

A Time with Children

Second Lesson: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-5 & 2:13-17 (NT, p. 205)

Sermon: “Aiming at a Higher Glory”

Dr. Thompson

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 739

“O for a Closer Walk with God”

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, p. 35)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory

“As the Deer Pants”

arr. Wagner

* Doxology (606)

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 450

“Be Thou My Vision”

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude

“Majesty”

arr. Wagner

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers this morning have been given by Bonnie Plantholt to the glory of God and in loving memory of her parents, Erwin and Dorothy Eckstein.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Guest Preacher
Organist
Liturgist
Ushers
Welcomers

Rev. Dr. Murray Thompson
Kay Ten Eyck
Richard Cochrane
Joe Waters, Wayne Griffiths
Alice and Dick Broxton



We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

**First Presbyterian Church
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Your
Faith is Growing
Abundantly....



2 THESSALONIANS 1:3

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him

endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 2:13-17

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of everyone of you for one another is increasing. Therefore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith during all your persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring.

This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, and is intended to make you worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering.

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

Worship at Camp Lackawanna

August 14, 2016

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn: "Morning Has Broken"

Morning has broken like the first morning, blackbird has spoken like the first bird.

Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass.

Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play!

Praise with elation; praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day.

Prayer of Confession

***God of goodness and truth,
we have failed to seek after your wisdom
and have followed paths that have led away from you.
Forgive our foolish ways, and lead us in your truth,
that we may live in the fullness of life
as you intend through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

Response "Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!"

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's holy name. Alleluia! (repeat)

Praise God's holy name. Alleluia! Praise God's holy name. Alleluia! (repeat)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 104

Refrain: ***There was evening, and there was morning, a (first, etc.) day.***

Sermon

Hymn "For the Beauty of the Earth"

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies
(Refrain) Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light. (Refrain)

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight. (Refrain)

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild. (Refrain)

For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given,
For that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy of heaven. (Refrain)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Hymn "Seek Ye First"

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

Ask and it shall be given unto you; see and you shall find;
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.

Blessing and Departure

May the God of peace be our peace.

Amen.

Bless the Lord!

The Lord's name be praised.

If you wish to make an offering today, please give it to the appointed usher as our service concludes.