

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 5, 2020

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord

who made heaven and earth.

O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me;

let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

Hymn 331

“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”

1 God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

2 Thy love divine hath led us in the past. In this free land by thee our lot is cast.
Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay: thy word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

3 From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, be thy strong arm our ever sure defense.
Thy true religion in our hearts increase. Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

4 Refresh thy people on their toilsome way. Lead us from night to never-ending day.
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

***our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.***

***Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.***

***Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image;
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.***

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Romans 7:15-25

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus said, "But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Psalter: Psalm 42

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

When shall I come and behold the face of God?

My tears have been my food day and night,

while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:

how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God,

with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

My soul is cast down within me;

therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts;

all your waves and your billows have gone over me.

By day the LORD commands his steadfast love,

and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

I say to God, my rock, "Why have you forgotten me?"

Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?"

As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me,

while they say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn 778 "As Pants the Deer for Living Streams"

- 1 As pants the deer for living streams, in dry or desert space,
I thirst for you, O living God; I long to see your face!
O how I miss the happy days when with the throng I'd praise!

Refrain: Take courage now, my trembling heart, for God will take your part!

- 2 Tears are my bread both night and day; fools crush me, soul and bone.
They laugh and ask, "Where is your God?" I hope in you alone.
Why cast me off? Where have you gone? Why is your grace withdrawn? (**Refrain**)
- 3 Deep calls to deep, the billows roar; they cover me with pain.
I cry for healing and for home; God, show your love again!
Without your people, who am I? Without you I will die. (**Refrain**)
- 4 O send your light to guide me home; my Savior, guide me still.
With shouting pilgrims I will come to climb your holy hill.
Then with the harp I'll sing your praise; my happy voice I'll raise. (**Refrain**)

Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Offering

Offertory

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

GO IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn 338 "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

- 1 O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with servanthood from sea to shining sea!

- 2 O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw;
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law!
- 3 O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! May God thy gold refine
till all success be nobleness and every gain divine!

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

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PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William Carter
Liturgist	Jan Thyren
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Guest Organist	Nancy Post

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