

## Responding to the Word

\*Hymn 744

*Festal Song*

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

\*Affirmation of Faith (Unison)      The 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.**

Pastoral Joys and Concerns of the Church

Prayer for the People and Lord's Prayer      Choral Amen

**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.**

Call to Stewardship

*All undesignated cash goes to the Ministry Alliance Transient Fund.*

Offertory

arr. Lynn Arthur Koch

"Morning Song"

Awake, awake to love and work!  
The lark is in the sky,  
the fields are wet with diamond dew,  
the worlds awake to cry  
their blessings on the Lord of life  
as He goes meekly by.

Come, let thy voice be one with theirs,  
shout with their shout of praise;

See how the giant sun soars up,  
great lord of years and days!  
So let the love of Jesus come  
and set thy soul ablaze!

To give and give, and give again  
what God hath given thee,  
To spend thyself nor count the cost,  
to serve right gloriously  
The God who gave all words that are,  
and all that are to be.

\*Congregational Response      Hymn 606      *Old Hundredth*  
**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*Offertory Prayer

**Bearing and Following the Word into the World**

\*Hymn 338

*Materna*

"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

\*Invitation to Discipleship

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Closing Choral Response      Peter C. Lutkin  
The Lord bless you and keep you,  
The Lord lift His countenance upon you,  
and give you peace,  
The Lord make His face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious unto you.  
Amen.

\*Peace of Christ  
The peace of Christ be with you  
**And also with you**

\*Closing Voluntary      John Phillip Sousa  
"The Washington Post March"



*Rizpah by Lauren Wright Pittman*

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The Reverend Ashley Drake Mertz, Pastor  
The Reverend David A. Slyter, Associate Pastor  
Marialice Parish, M.M., Organist and Director of Music

**THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP**

June 30, 2019 10:40 A.M.

Public Greif That Inspires Action

*\*The congregation is invited to stand as music begins.  
Additional worshipers may enter as the congregation sings.*

Welcome and Announcements

Welcome to worship at Grace First Presbyterian Church! As we light the Christ Candle, we are reminded that Jesus is the light of the world. As we pour the Baptismal Waters in the Font, we recall our baptism and newness of life. As we bring in the Bible, we remember the centrality of the Word. We worship our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. ***(Please sign the attendance register, pass it down the pew, and then back so everyone can greet those worshiping near you.)***

**Gathering Around the Word**

Opening Voluntary Charles Callahan  
"Prelude on National Airs"

Entrance of Baptismal Water, the Christ Light,  
and the Bible

Call to Worship (Responsive)

When we come to this space, we bring all of ourselves.

**We bring joy and hope,**  
dreams and prayers,  
**grief and doubt,**  
memories and heartache.

**God meets us here.**  
God hears our prayers and sees our scars.  
**With open hearts and authenticity, let us**  
**worship good and gracious God.**

Prayer of Invocation

\*Hymn 337 *America*  
"My Country, 'Tis of Thee"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**God of creation, humanity is capable of such evil. Stories in scripture alongside stories on the news remind us of that truth all the time. For the moments when we choose violence over peace, exclusion over inclusion, and fear over hope—forgive us. When we choose pride over what is right, and comfort over justice—show us mercy. And when we numb our pain instead of leaning into empathy—Unravel us, for we long to be changed.**

Silent Confession...

Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Congregational Response Hymn 418 *Softly and Tenderly*

**O for the wonderful love he has promised,  
Promised for you and for me!  
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,  
Pardon for you and for me.  
"Come home, come home!  
You who are weary come home."  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling,  
"O sinner come home!"**

**Proclaiming the Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Music Ministry Dudley Buck

"God of Our Fathers, Bless This Our Land"  
Sanctuary Choir

God of our fathers, bless this our land;  
Ocean to ocean owneth Thy hand.  
Home of all nations from far and near,  
Give to unite us, Thy faith and fear.  
God of our fathers failing us never,  
God of our fathers, be ours forever.

Lord God of Sabaoth, mighty in war,  
Boundless and numberless Thine armies are.  
Thy right hand conquereth all that oppose;  
Launch forth Thy thunderbolts, smite down our foes;  
Lord God of Sabaoth, failing us never,  
Lord God of Sabaoth, fight for us ever.

Lord God our Savior, Thy love o'erflows,  
Making our wilderness bloom as the rose.

Thou with true liberty madest us free,  
Knowing no master, no king, but Thee;  
Lord God our Savior, failing us never,  
Lord God our Savior, reign Thou forever.

Spirit of unity, crown of all kings,  
Find us a resting place under Thy wings:  
By Thine own presence Thy will be done,  
Millions of free men banded as one.  
Lord God almighty, failing us never,  
Thine be the glory, now and forever.

Children's Time The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz

Children's Worship

First Reading Micah 6:6-8  
Pew Bible: Page 866

The Word of God for the People of God  
**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 95:1-7 Cantor: Kirk Pendleton  
Pew Bible Page 550



Second Reading 2 Samuel 3:7; 21: 1-14  
Pew Bible: Page 277

The Word of God for the People of God  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon The Rev. David A. Slyter