



Grace First

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Together – Worshipping, Witnessing, Working

606 Mockingbird Lane, Weatherford, Texas 76086

817-594-2744

www.gracefirstpc.org



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 WORSHIP

September 6, 2020

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to worship at Grace First Presbyterian Church! We are currently worshipping online only. Our service follows the same format as in-person worship. In the next few weeks we will be transitioning from fully pre-recorded and edited services to live streaming our service. Please allow some grace for growing pains in this process. We pray that worship as a whole will invite you into deeper personal connection with God and empower you to live by the example of Jesus Christ, all while being guided by the Holy Spirit.

Prelude

“Here, O Lord, We See You Face to Face”

Call to Worship(Responsive)

Praise the Lord!

Sing God’s praise in the assembly of the faithful, for the Lord takes pleasure in the people.

Let the faithful sing for joy.

Prayer of Invocation

Almighty God, whose ways are far beyond our understanding, help us to trust your judgments so that we may do your will by loving you and one another.

Hymn 394

394 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
 3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
 4 Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, laud and hon - or

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
 hosts, and stay; come, with all your lov - ing - kind - ness;
 you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
 to the Son, laud and hon - or to the Spir - it,

bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 hear your peo - ple as we pray, and your full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
 ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and

help for - ev - er, and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Guitar chords in Pew Edition do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Although this ancient text has often been used at church dedications, the first stanza clearly refers to the people of God and the second to the place where they meet. The stately and soaring tune is aptly named for the edifice where the composer served as organist and is buried.

TEXT: Latin, 7th cent.; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851, alt.
 MUSIC: Henry Purcell, c. 1680; adapt. Ernest Hawkins, 1843

WESTMINSTER ABBEY
 8.7.8.7.8.7
 (alternate tune: REGENT SQUARE)

Children's Moment

Call to Confession

Amid the countless things that human beings cannot fully comprehend about God, there stands this: God so loves us as to bathe us with grace and feed us with mercy and forgive us our sins. Confident in the love of God, let us pray together.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Lord God, while we were still slaves to sin, you died for our salvation. Yet we still worship the false gods of the world, forgetting that you are Lord. Loving worldly wealth, we have not loved you with our whole heart nor loved our neighbors as ourselves. Trusting worldly strength, we have not trusted your word nor followed the Word-made-flesh. Forgiving by worldly norms, we have not shown mercy to others as you have shown mercy to us. Forgive us yet again...

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear the good news of the gospel: Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. And Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. Believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Prayer of Illumination

Holy Spirit, as your word is read and preached, pass among your gathered people, opening minds to increase understanding, opening hearts to bind us together in your love. In Jesus' name we ask it. Amen.

First Reading

Romans 13:8-14

The word of God for the People of God
Thanks be to God

Music Ministry

"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"
"My Jesus, I Love Thee"
Handbell Quartet

Second Reading

Matthew 18:15-20

The word of God for the People of God
Thanks be to God

Sermon

The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz

Hymn 103

103 Come Now, O Prince of Peace

오소서

1 Come now, O Prince of Peace; make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love; make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, hope of u - ni - ty; make us one bod - y.



Originally created for a 1988 world conference for the peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula, these four stanzas centering on peace, love, freedom, and unity demonstrate how texts for particular situations can become hymns that speak deeply to shared human longings.

TEXT: Geonyong Lee, 1988; English trans. Marion Pope, c. 1990
MUSIC: Geonyong Lee, 1988
Text and Music © 1988 Geonyong Lee

O-SO-SO
6.5.5.6

Call to Stewardship

Let us be glad in our Maker and rejoice in our King. Let us praise God's name with dancing and music; let us bring to God our tithes and offerings.

Offertory

"Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation"

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

Ever-present God, be among us now that these offering may become instruments of your love and justice. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Communion Voluntary

“Eat This Bread” (2004)

Sanctuary Choir and Soloists Dan Goldsmith,
Dianna Dixon, Emily Forester, John Fields

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.*

I am the bread of life,
the true bread sent from the Father.
Your ancestors ate manna in the desert,
but this is the bread come down from heaven.

Eat my flesh and drink my blood,
and I will raise you up on the last day.
Anyone who eats this bread will live forever.
If you believe and eat this bread,
you will have eternal life.

Hymn 529

LORD'S SUPPER

529 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

1 Draw us in the Spir - it's teth - er, for when hum - bly
2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of
3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -

in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,
 Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er
 ments of you, that by car - ing, help-ing, giv - ing,

you are in the midst of them. Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -
 break the bread and bless the cup, Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -
 we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -

lu - ia! Here we touch your gar - ment's hem.
 lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.
 lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

This communion text calls attention to the inherent sacramental nature of all meals and the communal dimensions of all human interaction. The tune, originally composed for an anthem setting of this text, honors the institution where the composer was trained and later taught.

TEXT: Percy Dearmer, 1931, alt.

MUSIC: Harold Friedell, 1957

Text © 1931 Oxford University Press

Music © 1957, ren. H. W. Gray Company (admin. Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.)

UNION SEMINARY

8.7.8.7.4.4.7

Benediction

The Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you
And also with you

Postlude

“All Who Hunger Gladly Gather”

Today's Liturgy has been adapted from: Feasting on the Word:
Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2
Cover Art: *Embrace* by Peter Weaver



Worship Notes 9.6.20

How is God speaking to me today? (music, sermon, scripture, prayers, etc.)

What are the takeaways from today's service? What is standing out to me?

How did the service challenge me?

Living in faith is something we do daily.
What actions will I take based on today's service?

You are encouraged to use this sheet during worship to help you engage more directly with God and reflect on God's call to you. Keep it in a place where you will be reminded of your responses throughout the week.

Grace First Presbyterian Church