



# Grace First

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Together – Worshipping, Witnessing, Working*

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# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

October 11, 2020

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to worship at Grace First Presbyterian Church! We are currently worshipping online and in-person with outdoor services today and Sunday, October 25. The online service follows the same format as in-person worship. 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**

Wilbur Held

“Awake, Awake to Love and Work”

## **Call to Worship** (Responsive)

You have been called to the banquet.

**This is the feast.**

You have been summoned to the wedding.

**This is the feast of life and light.**

From the streets and the byways, God has invited us.

**We have come to the banquet that has no end. Alleluia! Amen!**

## **Prayer of Invocation**

Holy God, you set before us each day a bounty of good things. Bring us to your feasting table, hungry for your Word, eager to rebuild the cities you have made, and ready to receive strangers so that we celebrate at all times and in all places the peace which is life in you. Amen.

## Hymn 645

# 645 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above



1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all  
 2 What God's al-might - y power has made God's gra - cious mer -  
 3 The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but, through all grief  
 4 Thus all my toil-some way a - long I sing a - loud



cre - a - tion, the God of power, the God of love,  
 cy keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade  
 dis - tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay,  
 thy prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song



the God of our sal - va - tion. With  
 God's watch - ful eye ne'er sleep - eth. With -  
 our peace and joy and bless - ing, as  
 my voice un - wea - ried rais - es. Be



heal - ing balm my soul is filled, and ev - ery faith - less  
 in the king - dom of God's might, lo! all is just and  
 with a moth - er's ten - der hand God gent - ly leads the  
 joy - ful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and bod - y,



mur - mur stilled:  
 all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
 cho - sen band:  
 take your part:

The regal divine imagery here will not be new to most singers, but some may not expect the third stanza's image of God as mother. Yet it is part of God's self-description in Isaiah 66:13. This Bohemian Brethren tune resembles both Genevan psalm tunes and French folk songs.

TEXT: Johann Jacob Schütz, 1675; trans. Frances Elizabeth Cox, 1864, alt.  
 MUSIC: Bohemian Brethren's *Kirchengesang*, 1566; harm. Maurice F. Bell, 1906, alt.

MIT FREUDEN ZART  
 8.7.8.7.8.8.7

**Call to Confession**

Let us come before the throne of God, the mercy seat, with all of our humanity, open to the peace of promised forgiveness, confessing together using the prayer of confession, followed by your own silent prayer.

**Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

**You invite us to your feast, O God, and we do not come. You beg us to give thanks for life, and we fail in our thanksgiving. You have made for us a wonderful earth, and we neglect the gift. Forgive us for what we have done and for abandoning the pathway you desire for us. Be our guide and conscience. Turn our feet and hands to your will, that all we do might give glory to you.**

**Silent Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

The God of peace who calls all creation to live in unity, hears your plea. In the spirit of feasting and thanksgiving, in the mercy of God, you are forgiven! For the sake of Christ, who died and rose from the dead to destroy the shroud of despair, rejoice!

**Prayer of Illumination**

Your Word, O God, is a feast all its own. Let your Holy Spirit open our minds to your call to listen, for we know your holy Word heals and reconciles your people. Amen.

## First Reading

Isaiah 25:1-9

The word of God for the people of God  
**Thanks be to God**

## Music Ministry

*Madrid*

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”  
Hymn Festival 2010

## Second Reading

Matthew 22:1-14

The word of God for the people of God  
**Thanks be to God**

## Sermon

**The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz**

## Hymn 503

### 503 Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation



1 Lord, we have come at your own in - vi - ta - tion,  
2 Here, at your ta - ble, con - firm our in - ten - tion;  
3 When, at your ta - ble, each time of re - turn - ing.



cho - sen by you, to be count - ed your friends;  
give it your seal of for - give - ness and grace;  
vows are re - newed and our cour - age re - stored,



yours is the strength that sus - tains ded - i - ca - tion;  
teach us to serve with - out pride or pre - ten - sion,  
may we in - creas - ing - ly glo - ry in learn - ing



ours, a com - mit - ment we know nev - er ends.  
Lord, in your king - dom, what - ev - er our place.  
all that it means to ac - cept you as Lord.

St. Augustine spoke of eucharist as “the repeatable part of baptism,” and this hymn reminds us that each time we share in the Lord’s Supper we are renewing our baptismal vows. The text is set to a tune that dates to the transition between plainchant and modern tonalities.

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1977, alt.  
MUSIC: Paris Antiphoner, 1681; harm. La Feillée’s *Méthode du plain-chant*, 1808  
Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company

O QUANTA QUALIA  
11.10.11.10  
(this tune in a higher key, 369)

## Affirmation of Faith

## 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.

## Prayers for the People and 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.

## **Call to Stewardship**

Because God has given you a great banquet, let your thanksgiving overflow with joyous giving for the sake of others.

## **Offertory**

Paul Manz

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word”

## **Congregational Response** Hymn 606 Old Hundredth Doxology

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**

God of compassion and generous love, we give you thanks for the riches of Earth, which sustain our lives and which you have created for our joy. We thank you for Jesus, whose life, death, resurrection, and ascension renews our strength and revives our hope. We give you thanks for the Holy Spirit, who comes among us, invites us to dine with each other and with you, and keeps us in faith. Bless these gifts for the sake of those in need and the work of your church. In peace, we pray our thanksgiving. Amen.

## Hymn 697

### 697 Take My Life



1 Take my life and let it be con-se - crat-ed, Lord, to thee;  
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
3 Take my voice and let me sing al-ways, on - ly, for my King;  
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; not a mite would I with-hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in  
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti -  
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa -  
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - ery power as



cease - less praise; let them flow in cease - less praise.  
ful for thee, swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
ges from thee, filled with mes - sa - ges from thee.  
thou shalt choose, ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

This hymn of consecration radiates from the repeated word "take," resulting in a remarkably full survey of a person's attributes and possessions and giving weight to the "all" at the end. The composer of the tune was influential in the renewal of Reformed hymnody in French.

TEXT: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874  
MUSIC: H. A. César Malan, 1827

HENDON  
7.7.7.7

## Benediction

### The Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you  
And also with you

## Postlude

Paul Manz

"Praise to the Lord Almighty"

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





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## Worship Notes 10.11.20

Join us for worship each Sunday online at 10:40am.

Check our Facebook page for our in-person worship schedule.

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.