

Second Reading                      Jeremiah 29:1-7  
Pew Bible: Page 731

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

Sermon                                  The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz

**Responding to the Word**

\*Hymn (*see insert*)                      *Pleading Savior*  
"Jeremiah Sent a Letter"

\*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  
**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  
*All undesignated cash goes to the Compassion Fund.*

Offertory    arr. Dale Wood  
"I Love to Tell the Story"

\*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

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

\*Hymn 541    *Randolph*  
"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

\*Invitation to Discipleship

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Closing Congregational Response 748    *Tallis' Canon*  
"Go with Us, Lord"  
**Go with us Lord, and guide the way  
Through this and every coming day,  
that in your Spirit strong and true  
Our lives may be our gift to you.**

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

\*Closing Voluntary                                  Douglas E. Wagner  
"Postlude on *St. Thomas*"

Today's Liturgy has been adapted from:  
Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2 and Sanctified Art



New Roots 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

July 28, 2019

10:40 A.M.

When Dreams Unravel

*\*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 worshipping near you.)***

### Gathering Around the Word

Opening Voluntary Gordon Young  
"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

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

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Sometimes life takes us where we don't expect.  
**Sometimes, God takes us where we don't expect.**

In worship, we gather to get in touch with God's bigger narrative.

**In worship, we gather to expand our hearts.**

So let us worship the God of unending surprises.

**Let us worship the God of love.**

Prayer of Invocation

\*Hymn 54

"Make a Joyful Noise to God"

Dix

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Creator God, being faithful has never been easy.  
You asked Noah to build a ship. You asked the Israelites to plant gardens and build homes while in exile. You asked the prophets to speak challenging truths. You asked the disciples to drop their nets and follow you. And you ask us to love bigger than society wants to. Being faithful has never been easy, and as a result, we often miss the mark. Forgive us for holding tightly to human-made plans. Forgive us for the times we say no to you so that we can say yes to ourselves. Unravel the grip we have on our agenda so that we can make room for you. Gratefully we pray...**

Silent Confession...

Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Congregational Response Hymn 761 (v.1) Beecher

**Called as partners in Christ's service,  
called to ministries of grace,  
we respond with deep commitment  
fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing,  
side by side and friend with friend,  
equal partners in our caring  
to fulfill God's chosen end.**

### Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Music Ministry

Dave Deison & Rusty Crownover

He leadeth me, O blessed thought!  
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be  
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,  
Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,  
By waters still, o'er troubled sea,  
Still 'tis His hand that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, He leadeth me,  
By His own hand He leadeth me;  
His faithful foll'wer I would be,  
For by His hand He leadeth me.

Lord, I would clasp my hand in Thine,  
Nor ever murmur nor repine;  
Content, whatever lot I see,  
Since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, He leadeth me,  
By His own hand He leadeth me;  
His faithful foll'wer I would be,  
For by His hand He leadeth me.

And when my task on earth is done,  
When by Thy grace the vict'ry's won,  
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee,  
Since God through Jordan leadeth me.

Children's Time

The Rev. David A. Slyter

Children's Worship

*Children up through 5<sup>th</sup> grade may leave the Sanctuary at this time. Following worship, parents should pick up their child in room 6.*

First Reading

Psalms 66:1-12

Pew Bible: Page 528

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**Thanks be to God.**