



# Grace First

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Together – Worshipping, Witnessing, Working*



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

Trinity Sunday

May 30, 2021

## **Welcome and Announcements**

As you prepare for worship today you are invited to light a candle in your worship space or gaze upon the Christ candle in the Sanctuary to center yourself for the worship of God.

### **Prelude**

*Diadem*

arr. Anna Laura Page

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

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

Jeff Kahlden

People of God, gather to worship.

**Let us sing praises to God who invites us to new and abundant life.**

We gather to worship the God of new life.

**Let us offer thanksgiving to God who delights in being in relationship with us.**

### **\*Prayer of Invocation**

God, who calls all to your saving love, thank you for this day in which to worship. You bless us with this place for worship, these brothers and sisters with whom to worship, and your generous grace that gives us cause to worship. Inspire this service that through it we would be formed into people who live the love we know. Amen.

## 2 Come, Thou Almighty King

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy  
 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful,  
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred  
 4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal

name to sing; help us to praise:  
 might - y Lord, our prayer at - tend.  
 wit - ness bear in this glad hour.  
 prais - es be, hence ev - er - more!

Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,  
 Come, and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy word suc - cess;  
 Thou who al - might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,  
 Thy sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,

come, and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.  
 Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.  
 and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power.  
 and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

The author of this Trinitarian text is unknown, but this hymn has proved popular since the middle of the 18th century, partly because of its effective use of biblical metaphors, but also because of the strength of this tune, which was composed especially for these words.

TEXT: *Collection of Hymns for Social Worship*, 1757, alt.  
 MUSIC: Felice de Giardini, 1769, alt.

ITALIAN HYMN  
 6.6.4.6.6.6.4

## **Children's Moment**

Following Children's Moment, children ages 3—grade 5 who would like to participate in Children's Worship may leave the sanctuary with this week's teachers. If your child does not wish to participate in Children's Worship they are welcome to stay here! Following today's service, you may pick up your child in room 6.

**Today's Teachers are: Ashley Furst & Katy Smith**

## **Call to Confession**

When we find ourselves gathered to hear God's word and learn of God's command, we look at our lives and confess that we have not measured up to what God desires of us. Let us join together and confess our sins in one voice followed by our own time of silent confession.

## **Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

**God whose Spirit blows where it will, how difficult this can be for us to understand and accept. Forgive us when we try to place boundaries around your love. Forgive us when we try to limit your gift of eternal life. Forgive us when we restrict the sharing of your healing and wholeness intended for the entire world.**

## **Silent Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

God understands our human limitations and grieves when the world is broken by our thoughtlessness. God models through Holy Scripture how love has the power to forgive and heal. May it be so.

## **Prayer of Illumination**

God, your word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. As your word is read and proclaimed, let us hear you speak to us that we may go forth renewed to continue to serve you. Amen.

## **First Reading**

**Romans 8:12-17**

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

## **Music Ministry**

**Bob Moore**

“There’s A Wideness in God’s Mercy”  
Sanctuary Choir

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy like the wideness of the sea;  
There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty.  
There is welcome for the sinner, and a promised grace made good;  
There is mercy with the Savior; here is healing in His blood.

There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;  
There is no place where earth’s failings have such kindly judgment given.  
There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;  
There is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind; And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. Make our love, O God, more faithful; let us take You at Your Word, and our lives will be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

## **Second Reading**

**John 3:1-17**

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

## **Sermon**

**The Rev. David Slyter**

## 634

## To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!  
 2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

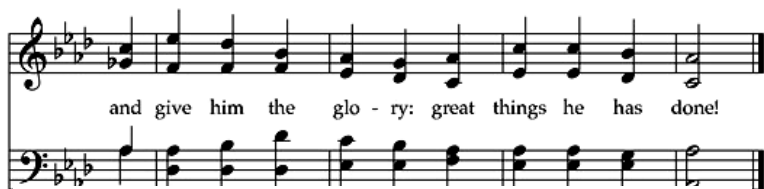
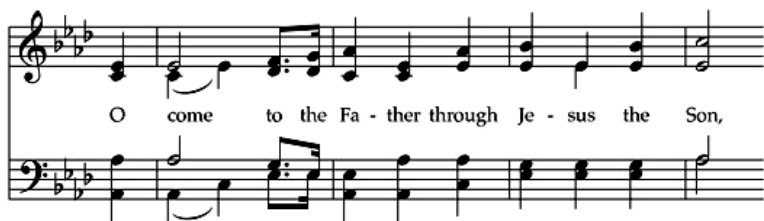
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
 and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,  
 but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
 our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

## Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!



This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.

TEXT: Fanny Jane Crosby, 1875  
MUSIC: William Howard Doane, 1875

TO GOD BE THE GLORY  
11.11.11.11 with refrain

## **\*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.**

## **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](#)** (click here to be directed to our online giving)

We believe that what we offer back to God makes a difference in this world. More than that, we believe in God who is behind our giving, and trust God whose love extends beyond our understanding.

### **Offertory**

*Dix*

“For the Beauty of Each Hour”

### **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**

Holy God, the gifts we bring before you are an expression of our trust in you and in the ministry you provide others because of what we do here and now. Bless and use these gifts to further Your kingdom. Amen.



## 826

## Lift High the Cross

Refrain

Descant

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim

till all the world a-dore his sa-cred name. *Fine*

till all the world a-dore his sa-cred name.

1 Come, Chris-tians, fol-low where our Sav-ior trod,  
 2 All new-born ser-vants of the Cru-ci-fied  
 3 O Lord, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree,  
 4 So shall our song of tri-umph ev-er be:

*to Refrain*

the Lamb vic-tor-ious, Christ, the Son of God.  
 bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.  
 your death has brought us life e-ter-nal-ly.  
 praise to the Cru-ci-fied for vic-to-ry.

This majestic hymn celebrates the paradox that for Christians a means of painful death has been transformed into a symbol of renewed life; a sign of defeat has become an emblem of victory. With the cross traced on our foreheads at Baptism we are marked as Christ's own forever.

TEXT: George William Kitchin, 1887; rev. Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916, alt.

MUSIC: Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1916; desc. Richard Proulx, 1985

Text and Music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company

Music Desc. © 1985 Hope Publishing Company

CRUCIFER

10.10 with refrain

## **Benediction**

As we leave this place today, may we leave knowing that we are loved and blessed and able to go out into the world with assurance and confidence that Christ is with us. Go and be all you can be in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **The Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ be with you

**And also with you**

## **Postlude**

*Old Hundredth*

arr. Michael Burkhardt

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

**Today's Liturgy has been adapted from:**

The Journal of Worship Resources, Vol. 13, No. 3; Vol. 16, No. 3

**Cover Art:** Vector illustration of a background for Trinity Sunday,  
by suns design

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **Sunday, May 30**

9:00 AM	Trinity Sunday Sunday School Classes
10:15 AM	Sanctuary Choir Warm-up
10:40 AM	Morning Worship, Sanctuary
3:00 PM	Presbyterian Night Shelter No Youth Group

### **Monday, May 31**

**Memorial Day—Office Closed**

### **Tuesday, June 1**

12:30 PM	Communications Ministry, Library
5:00 PM	Sanctuary Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 PM	SJM Weekly Discussion

### **Wednesday, June 2**

11:00 AM	Board of Trustees
5:00 PM	Church Picnic at the Kramer's
7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, June 3**

9:00 AM	P.W. Coordinating Team
6:00 PM	Mission & Outreach

### **Saturday, June 5**

9:00 AM	Property Meeting, Library
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### **Sunday, June 6**

9:00 AM	Communion Sunday School Classes
10:15 AM	Sanctuary Choir Warm-up
10:40 AM	Morning Worship, Sanctuary
1:00 PM	PYP Men's Bible Study
5:00 PM	Youth Group at GFPC

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Stewardship**—During the time of Stewardship we will not pass the offering plate. If you would like to contribute financially to the ministries of Grace First, you may do so by placing your offering in the designated box in the Narthex as you leave the Sanctuary, or by visiting this link:  
<https://gracefirstpc.churchcenter.com/giving>

**VBS**—We are going to begin decorating and making props starting Wednesday, June 2 during the day. If you are interested in helping out, please contact me. This year's theme is Rocky Railway and the main set is going to be a train depot so there will be lots to make. We will also be decorating some other rooms with a train theme.

**PW Bible presentation**—On June 6, the Presbyterian Women will be presenting a bible to a newly married couple, member Ashley Garcia and her spouse, Billy Weigart.

**Corporate Meeting**—The Trustees and Session have called a GFPC Corporate Meeting following worship service on Sunday, June 13, 2021, for the purpose of approving new Bylaws for the Corporation.

**Installation & Ordination**—On Sunday, June 13 we will ordain and/or install our newly elected officers in the worship service.

**Pastor Vacation Time**—Pastor Ashley will be taking vacation from May 28 thru June 11. During this time if you have needs for pastoral care, please contact Pastor David.