



Grace First

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Together – Worshipping, Witnessing, Working



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THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 12, 2020

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

We welcome you to worship at Grace First Presbyterian Church. We are currently pre-recording our worship service so that you can worship when it is most convenient for you. We pray the worship experience will allow you to focus on your relationship with God and how God is calling you to live as faithful disciples in the world. You will find the liturgy of the service laid out as it would normally be when we gather for worship in the sanctuary. Let us worship God!

Prelude

Antonin Dvorak

“Largo” from the New World”

Call to Worship

Your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

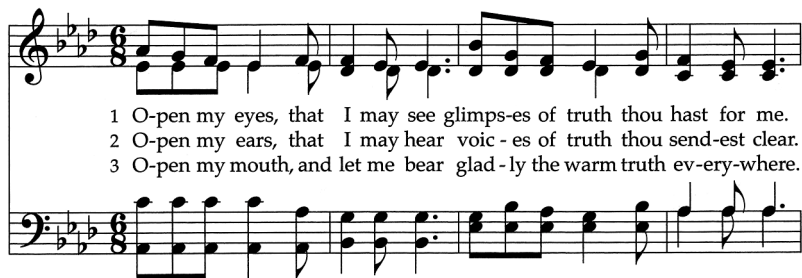
Your word is our heritage forever, the joy of our hearts.

Prayer of Invocation

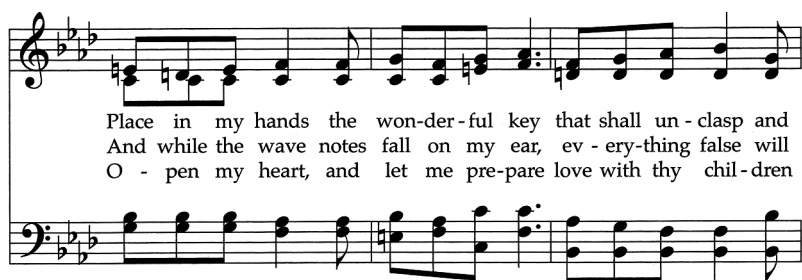
Author of Life, Living Word, Holy Breath, we have stumbled through the week and groped our way back to this place. Illumine the steps before us and write your word on our hearts, for we carry the name of Jesus and would walk in the light of his love. Amen.

Hymn 451

451 Open My Eyes, That I May See



1 O-pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.
 2 O-pen my ears, that I may hear voic-es of truth thou send-est clear.
 3 O-pen my mouth, and let me bear glad-ly the warm truth ev-ery-where.



Place in my hands the won-der-ful key that shall un-clasp and
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev-ery-thing false will
 O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare love with thy chil-dren



set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
 dis-ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
 thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy



will to see. O-pen my eyes; il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!
 will to see. O-pen my ears; il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!
 will to see. O-pen my heart; il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!

The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand Scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.

Call to Confession

The Scriptures are shot through with stories of people just like us: men who grieved, women who questioned, siblings who did not get along, parents who chose favorites. God's word of grace is meant for people just like us. There is no need for pretense when we come to worship God. Let us go to God in prayer as we pray together the prayer of confession followed by your own silent prayers.

Prayer of Confession

Patient and persistent God, we prepare for worship as if we know what to expect, as if worship is a safe and predictable place, as if we are here to simply observe. Holy One, forgive our tepid expectations. In the mystery of your love, overshadow us. Plant the seeds of your gospel in each of our hearts until we bloom and spill with your passion to serve in a world that is wasting.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. The Spirit of God dwells in you. If you hear nothing else today, hear these words: there is no condemnation. In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.

Prayer of Illumination

God of life, by the power of your Spirit come to us now. Plow our hearts with your living Word until we who are broken become fertile with your love, for we long to bear fruit in a world that is wasting. We pray in the name of Jesus, whose charge we bear. Amen.

First Reading

Genesis 25:19-34

The word of God for the People of God

Thanks be to God

Music Ministry

Bob Burroughs

“None Other Lamb”
Sanctuary Choir, 2000

None other Lamb, none other Name,
None other hope in heaven or earth or sea;
None other hiding place from guilt and shame,
None beside Thee.

My faith burns low, my hope burns low.
Only my heart's desire cries out in me.
By the deep thunder of its want and woe
Cries out in Thee.

Lord, Thou art life, though I be dead.
Love's fire Thou art however cold I be;
Nor heaven have I, nor place to lay my head,
Nor home but Thee.

Second Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The word of God for the People of God

Thanks be to God

Sermon

The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz

Hymn 707

707 Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord

1 Take thou our minds, dear Lord, we hum-bly pray;
 2 Take thou our hearts, O Christ; they are thine own;
 3 Take thou our wills, Most High! Hold thou full sway;
 4 Take thou our - selves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will;

give us the mind of Christ each pass - ing day;
 come thou with - in our souls and claim thy throne;
 have in our in - most souls thy per - fect way;
 through our sur - ren - dered souls thy plans ful - fill.

teach us to know the truth that sets us free;
 help us to shed a - broad thy death-less love;
 guard thou each sa - cred hour from self - ish ease;
 We yield our - selves to thee: time, tal - ents, all;

grant us in all our thoughts to hon - or thee.
 use us to make the earth like heaven a - bove.
 guide thou our or - dered lives as thou dost please.
 we hear, and hence - forth heed, thy sov - ereign call.

This hymn began with the tune, which the composer hummed to the author with a request for a text that would challenge the hearts and minds of young people. The text of the first three stanzas was written that day, and the fourth stanza later emerged at a youth conference.

TEXT: William H. Foulkes, stanzas 1–3, 1918, stanza 4, c. 1920
 MUSIC: Calvin Weiss Lauffer, 1918

HALL
 10.10.10.10

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 of 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

You call us to sow your word in all times and places, even when the ground is hard and shallow. For faith is a gift that comes from you, and fruitful discipleship is the work of your Spirit in us. May the gifts we offer this day spread the good news of life abundant in Christ. Amen.

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

Giver of life, send your cultivating Spirit to work among us until we yield and grow in grace, for we pray in the name of Jesus, who came out of love for the world. Amen.

Hymn 542

542 God Be with You Till We Meet Again

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing
2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen
3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's
4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's

coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en -
wings pro - tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro -
per - ils thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a -
ban - ner float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be -



After writing the first stanza of his "Christian Good-bye," the author sent it to two composers, one celebrated and one unknown, to see how each would set it. This is the second person's tune, which the author found more effective and used for the hymn's first publication.

EXT: Jeremiah Eames Rankin, 1880, alt.
MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880

GOD BE WITH YOU
9.8.8.9
(alternate tune: RANDOLPH 541)

Benediction

The Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you
And also with you

Postlude

arr. Pierce Dickens

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

Today's Liturgy has been adapted from: Feasting on the Word:
Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2
Cover Art: JESUS MAFA 1973