

Pastoral Joys and Concerns of the Church

Prayer for the People and Lord's Prayer Choral Amen
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.

Call to Stewardship
All undesignated cash goes to the Compassion Fund.

Offertory & 2020 Stewardship Commitment
Victor Cohen Johnson
"Canticle of Praise"
Sanctuary Choir

Sing to God with an alleluia.
Sing to God with a song of praise!
Sing to God with a voice of triumph.
Sing to God, let your voices raise.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Sing to the Lord and bless His name.
O let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad.
Let all the nations proclaim
the power and glory due His name.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sing to God with an alleluia.
Sing to God with a song of praise!
Shout to God with a voice of triumph.
Shout to God, let your voices raise!
Sing unto God, Sing unto God,
Sing, Alleluia!

*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 708 *Schumann*
"We Give Thee but Thine Own"

*Invitation to Discipleship

*Charge and Benediction

*Closing Choral Response William G. Tomer
"God Be with You"
Sanctuary Choir

God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.

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

*Closing Voluntary Jerry Westenkuehler
"Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him"

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



 **Grace First**
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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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 MORNING WORSHIP
November 17, 2019 10:40 A.M.

Stewardship Sunday

**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 worshiping near you.)***

Gathering Around the Word

Opening Voluntary Kevin McChesney
"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
Sanctuary Handbells

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

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Sing praises to the Lord, for God has done gloriously; let us sing God's praises throughout all the earth.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, from the highest peaks, to the deepest caverns.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, from the tiniest creatures, to the greatest herds.

Shout aloud and sign for joy, in the midst of our joys and our sorrows.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, as we come to worship the God of all creation!

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn 645 Mit Freuden Zart
"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**God of peace we confess we are people of fear.
We have let anxiety rule our days and worry our nights.
We have been distracted by nerves and focused on tension. We confess we have ignored your command to not be afraid. Forgive us, O God. Calm our hearts, settle our stomachs, and renew in us the ability to find our comfort in you.**

Silent Confession...

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Congregational Response Hymn 698 *Take Me As I Am*
**Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Children's Anthem John D. Horman
"Small Deeds"
Carol Choir

*Small deeds, done with great conviction;
Small deeds, each one wisely planned;
Small deeds, touched by truth and beauty;
Small deeds guided by the hand of God.*

I may never be like Noah, and build a mighty ark,
but I can light one candle to drive away the dark.

I may never be like Moses from Pharaoh's yoke be freed,
but I can lend a helping hand to those who are in need!

I may never be like Hannah, and give to God my son,
but I can give the gift of love to people, one by one.

Children's Worship

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

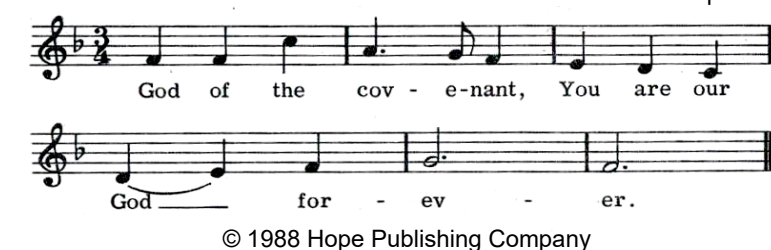
First Reading

Psalm 98
Pew Bible: Page 551

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

Psalm 99 Pew Bible Page 552 Cantor: Kirk Pendleton

Refrain 17th Century German Hymntune
Arr. Hal H. Hopson



Second Reading

Isaiah 65:17-25
Pew Bible: Page 696

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

Sermon

The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 543 Green Tyler
"God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me"

*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.