



Grace First

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Together – Worshipping, Witnessing, Working

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THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 24, 2020

Seventh Sunday of Easter

You will find the liturgy of the service laid out as it would normally be when we gather for worship in the sanctuary. You can choose to read it all together, or use the call and response format as printed. If you are going to follow along with the call and response it may help to select a liturgist for one or all the sections to lead you. This is good for any age person! If there are difficult words you can help each other out!

Prelude

arr. Robert Lau

“God, Who Madest Earth and Heaven”

Call to Worship

Be filled with God’s Holy Spirit and know that we are in the presence of God.

We are redeemed in Christ and have seen the glory of God.

Open your hearts to receive and live out the grace of God.

May God’s presence guide us this day and always.

Prayer of Invocation

God, your Son, Jesus, prayed for his disciples, and sent them into the world to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. By your Holy Spirit, hold the church in unity and keep it faithful to your Word, so that, we may be one with Christ in faith and love and service, as Christ is in us. In the name of the risen Lord we pray. Amen.

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

12 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God’s life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

TEXT: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867, alt.
MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; arr. Caniadau y Cyssegr, 1839

ST. DENIO
11.11.11.11

Call to Confession

Let us humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, casting all our anxiety on the Lord who cares for us.

Prayer of Confession

Back in school, many of us learned great new lessons. And yet we also have forgotten many of the things we have been taught. So, too, is the way of faith. We hate to say it, but we have forgotten. We hate to admit it, but we did not always follow through. We hate to confess it, but we have not accomplished all that you prepared us to do and be. Forgive us we pray.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Jesus loved his disciples enough to come back after his death and resurrection in order to continue teaching and instructing them. Jesus loves us enough to never give up on us. Our Lord forgives us of our sins and is patient with us as we learn and grow. Amen.

Prayer of Illumination

God of the Highest, reigning in glory, send down your Spirit of wisdom to shine in your heavenly Word, so that we may worship you with joy, continually blessing your name. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

First Reading

John 17:1-11

The word of God for the People of God
Thanks be to God

Music Ministry

Craig Courtney

“Rejoice”

Sanctuary Choir, 2009

Rejoice in the Lord always.
Again I say rejoice!

Rejoice, ye pure in heart,
Rejoice, give thanks and sing;
Your festive banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.
Rejoice, Rejoice, give thanks and sing!

Be anxious for nothing;
But in everything by prayer
and supplication with thanksgiving.
Let your requests be made known to God.
And the peace of God,
which passeth all understanding,
will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Rejoice in the Lord always.
Again I say rejoice.

Go on through life's long path,
Still chanting as ye go;
From youth to age, by night and day,
In gladness and in woe:

Rejoice, rejoice! Give thanks and sing!

Second Reading

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

The word of God for the People of God
Thanks be to God

Sermon

The Rev. David A. Slyter

Hymn 275

Ein' Feste Burg

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
 los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
 bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's
 armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

Long before Isaac Watts began to Christianize the Psalms, Martin Luther had already done so when he created the text and tune for this, his most famous hymn, which is based on Psalm 46. Luther encouraged metrical versions of psalms as well as chanted psalms and new hymns.

TEXT: Martin Luther, 1529; trans. Frederick Henry Hedge, 1852
 MUSIC: Martin Luther, 1529, alt.

EIN' FESTE BURG
 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7

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

Jesus said, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." May our morning offering be an act of gratitude from a merciful heart.

Offertory

arr. Gordon Young

"Prelude on Shall We Gather at the River"

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, use these tokens of life as a means to tell all others, to demonstrate to all others, to make real to all others the way of faith. In the mystery of your holy ways, enable these gifts to become a witness to faith itself Amen.

Hymn 649

Amazing Grace

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it “Faith’s Review and Expectation.” Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie

AMAZING GRACE

MUSIC: *Columbian Harmony*, 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.

CM

Text Phonetic Transcr. Cherokee, Kiowa, Creek, and Choctaw © Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference;

Phonetic Transcr. Navaho © Albert Tsosie

Benediction

Love's redeeming work is done. So, go forth eager to live in the power of the resurrected Lord and ready to proclaim the hope to which God is still calling you.
Amen.

The Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you
And also with you

Postlude

Gordon Young

"Prelude in Classic Style"

May Star Word Prompt:

As we prepare for Pentecost,
how has the Holy Spirit lit a fire
in you in/through your star word?
What new thing has it inspired you to do?