

Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 12, 2023

The asterisk () indicates to please rise in body or spirit.*

Silent Prayer of Preparation

Eternal God, you are our hope and our salvation, for in Jesus Christ you have conquered death. Baptized in him, we are raised to new life. Increase in us our faith and keep us watchful, that we may welcome Christ with joy when he comes to set the whole world free. Amen.

Gathering Music

The Gathering of God's People

Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship

"How Firm a Foundation"

arr. Wilbur Held

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

Giving Tree

Debbie Blaho

Introit "I Need Thee Every Hour"

Robert Lowry, 1872

I need thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like thine can peace afford.
I need thee, Oh I need thee,
Every hour I need thee!
Oh bless me now my Savior, I come to thee.

***Call to Worship**

Leader: If God is for us, who is against us?

People: He who gave us his son, now gives us the Spirit in power!

Leader: The Holy One is in our midst:

People: equipping us for life in the service of Christ.

Leader: In Christ we are more than conquerors,

People: for nothing in creation can separate us from the love of God!

Leader: May the all surpassing grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And the unshakable love of God be with you.

Leader: The joyous communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: And also with you!

***Hymn**

“Rejoice, the Lord Is King!”

#363

The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession** (*in unison*)

Holy and gracious God, you are all light and wonder and glory. You are our strength and our delight; you give us all we need to live. Yet we are distracted by all that glitters, continually grasping for more.

Rather than trust in your provision, we chase after our own happiness.

Forgive us, Lord, and turn us back to you. Overwhelm us with your goodness and cover us with grace, for we know that you are the source of life, the fount of all that is good. In the name of Jesus we pray.

Amen. (Silent prayer of confession.)

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Response Hymn**

“Gloria Patri”

#581

Ministry of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Children’s Sermon

First Scripture Reading

Romans 8:28-39

Choir Anthem “Fill My Life, O Lord My God”

Robert Powell, 1996

Fill my life, O Lord my God, fill my life with praise,

That my whole being may proclaim thy love and thy ways.

Praise in my going out, O Lord, and in my coming in;
Praise in each duty and each deed, now let my praise begin.
O fill my life with praise!

Second Scripture Reading

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Good Grief”

Rev. Désirée M. Youngblood

The Response to the Word

***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 arose 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.

***Hymn**

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

#353

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

pg 35

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.

Invitation to Offering

***Response**

“We Give Thee but Thine Own” (v. 1)

#708

***Prayer of Dedication**

The Sending of God's People

***Closing Hymn**

“Be Still, My Soul”

#819

***Charge and Blessing**

***Congregational Response**

“We Are the Church”



I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to - geth-er!



All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church to - geth-er!

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***Postlude**

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

arr. J. Wayne Kerr

Pastors: Désirée M. Youngblood
Dr. Mark A. Johnson

Music Director: Thomas Lloyd
Organist: Carol Welk

Liturgist: Paul Oswalt

Paul Oswalt is an Elder and Deacon and member of the Chancel Choir. He also facilitates the Flock of Ages adult Sunday School class. Originally from Centerburg, Ohio, he married into town and joined First Presbyterian Church of London in 1997. He has two daughters ... Leila is pursuing a Master's degree at Case Western Reserve and Kyla is a freshman at Bowling Green. Paul participates in Madison County Arts Council summer productions and organizes the Music Men & Jen barbershop quartet. He works fulltime for the Madison County Auditor.