

Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 6, 2023

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

Meditation before Worship

Almighty God, you pour out the spirit of grace and supplication on all who desire it. Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts, that with steady minds and burning zeal we may worship you in spirit and in truth through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gathering Music

The Gathering of God's People

Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship

"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

arr. Philip M. Young

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

Sufficient Grace

Debbie Blaho

***Call to Worship**

Leader: O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

People: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Leader: Let us search and try our ways and turn again to the Lord.

People: Let us lift up our hearts and sing praises to God.

***Hymn**

"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"

#1

The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

***Call to Confession**

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

God of compassion, we are sick. We have wrestled all night with worry instead of resting in you. We have asserted our own goodness instead of awakening to yours. We have turned away those hungry for your help instead of trusting you and feeding them from your limitless supply of blessings. Forgive us, heal us, and help us to hold on to you. We call upon you, for you will answer us, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Luke 16:19-31

Duet

"Deep River"

Harry Burleigh, arr. John Lloyd

Second Scripture Reading

Psalm 17

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Where Is Our Reward?”

Rev. Désirée M. Youngblood

The Response to the Word

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***Invitation to Offering**

***Response**

“Give Thanks”

#647

***Prayer of Dedication**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

(We will be receiving communion by coming forward to one of the two stations on each side of the communion table. Please exit the pew to the center aisle and return to your pew from the outside aisles. An elder or deacon will be available to serve communion to those who wish to remain seated. Gluten-free bread can be found on the communion table.)

***Invitation to the Lord’s Table**

***Hymn of Invitation “Here, O Our Lord, We See You”**

#517

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Eternal God ... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: You are holy, O God ... Great is the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Leader: Gracious God ... eternal God, now and forever. Amen.

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Sending of God's People

***Closing Hymn** "Hear, O Lord, My Plea for Justice"

#211

***Charge and Blessing**

*Congregational Response

“We Are the Church”

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to - geth-er!". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church to - gether!". The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for congregational singing.

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*Postlude

"Morning"

Brian John

This piece is dedicated to Laura and Mike Madden. The composer is a former member of our church, and son of Pat & Dick John.

Pastors: Désirée M. Youngblood
Steve Watters

Liturgist: Connie Dwyer

Acolytes: Devin Griggs, Nate Angel

Music Director: Thomas Lloyd

Organist: Carol Welk

Soloists: Laura Madden, flute
Mike Madden, tuba

The Rosebud is in celebration of the birth of Cody & Hope Smith's son, Deacon Robert Smith. He was born on July 16, 2023, 9 lbs. 5 oz. and 21.75" long.

Connie Dwyer is a life-long member of First Presbyterian Church. She is an Elder and Deacon, and currently serves as Clerk of Session. She also volunteered as the first administrator of Community Nursery School, now Presbyterian Child Center. Connie is a retired London City Schools teacher. She and her husband, TJ, have three sons and daughters-in-law, and four grandchildren. Time with family, reading, running, traveling, skiing, and gardening are favorite ways to spend her days. Connie also volunteers at London Elementary School, Madison Health, and as a docent at the Columbus Museum of Art.