

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 13, 2020

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome

Prelude

"The Rejoicing"

Charles Callahan

Call to Worship

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn 664

"Morning Has Broken"

1 Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

2 Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation; praise every morning, God's re-creation of the new day!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we are unworthy servants.

We have broken faith with you in thought and word and deed.

We are ashamed of the evil that dwells within us,

and we confess that our very best falls far short of your vision for us.

Forgive our sin, for Jesus' sake,

and restore us to fellowship with you and all your holy ones. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from

me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.” But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.”

Then the Lord said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

A Time with Our Children

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:21-35

Then Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.

So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Sermon: “Kingdom Arithmetic”

Rev. Carter

Fall Sermon Series: The Ornerly Parables of Christ

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn 445

"God, How Can We Forgive"

1 God, how can we forgive when bonds of love are torn? How can we rise and start anew, our trust reborn?
When human loving fails and every hope is gone, your love gives strength beyond our own to face the dawn.

2 When we have missed the mark, and tears of anguish flow, how can you still release our guilt, the debt we owe?
The ocean depth of grace surpasses all our needs. A priest who shares our human pain, Christ intercedes.

3 Who dares to throw the stone to damn another's sin, when you, while knowing all our past, forgive again?
No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live. As you, O God, forgive our sin, may we forgive.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
Presentation of Mason Miller

* Affirmation of Faith: 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.***

Minute for the Peace and Global Witness Offering
Offering

Offertory

“Duo”

Louis-Nicolas Clerambault

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

GO IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn 65

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside. Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side. Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

“Rigaudon”

Andre Campra arr. Gustave Ferrari

The rose on the table is placed in honor of Mason Miller, who is being baptized today. He is the son of Doug and Ciera Miller and grandson of Debbie Miller. Blessings and best wishes to Mason and his family.

Today's flowers are in celebration Dick and Marie Cochrane's 28th wedding anniversary.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor
Liturgist
Coordinator for Children and Youth Ministries
Director of Music
Organist
Assisting Elder

Rev. William Carter
Tabbi Miller-Scandle
Jana Schillinger
Frank Jones
Kay Ten Eyck
Judy Cutler

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