

# First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day  
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 16, 2020

10:00 a.m.

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Listen, God is Calling”

arr. Anne Krentz Organ

Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord

***who made heaven and earth.***

The Lord judges the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

***The Lord is a stronghold for oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.***

Hymn 317

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

- 1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.
- 2 In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord close-binding humankind.
- 3 Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be.  
All children of the living God are surely kin to me.
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.  
All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

***Gracious God,***

***our sins are too heavy to carry,  
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.***

***Forgive what our lips tremble to name,  
what our hearts can no longer bear,  
and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.***

***Set us free from a past that we cannot change;  
open to us a future in which we can be changed;  
and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image;  
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.***

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

### First Lesson: Romans 11:1-2, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel? for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

### Gospel Lesson: Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

### Psalter: Psalm 9

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

When my enemies turned back, they stumbled and perished before you.

For you have maintained my just cause;

you have sat on the throne giving righteous judgment.

You have rebuked the nations, you have destroyed the wicked;

you have blotted out their name forever and ever.

The enemies have vanished in everlasting ruins;

their cities you have rooted out; the very memory of them has perished.

But the Lord sits enthroned forever, he has established his throne for judgment.

He judges the world with righteousness; he judges the peoples with equity.

The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

And those who know your name put their trust in you,

for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you.

Sing praises to the Lord, who dwells in Zion. Declare his deeds among the peoples.

For he who avenges blood is mindful of them;

he does not forget the cry of the afflicted.

Be gracious to me, O Lord. See what I suffer from those who hate me; you are the one who lifts me up from the gates of death,

so that I may recount all your praises,

and, in the gates of daughter Zion, rejoice in your deliverance.

The nations have sunk in the pit that they made;

in the net that they hid their own foot has been caught.

The Lord has made himself known, he has executed judgment;

the wicked are snared in the work of their own hands.

The wicked shall depart to Sheol, all the nations that forget God.

For the needy shall not always be forgotten, nor the hope of the poor perish forever.

Rise up, O Lord! Do not let mortals prevail; let the nations be judged before you.

Put them in fear, O Lord; let the nations know that they are only human.

## RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn

"Poor Folk Won't Always Be Forgotten"

Bell/Maule

- 1 Poor folk won't always be forgotten, nor will the hopeless hope in vain.  
Rise, God, restrain the cruel exploiters, strike them with fear.
- 2 God has prepared a throne for judgment; nations will know who reigns supreme.  
God will judge all the earth with justice and equity.
- 3 May God indeed empower the weary, and for the troubled be their tower.  
Lord, do not turn from those who seek you, trusting your name.
- 4 Sing, sing to God among the nations, proclaim our great avenger's name.  
God keeps in mind all the afflicted; God hears their cry.
- 5 So, with a full heart, Lord, I praise you, grateful for all you are and do.  
I shall sing out for you, the highest; I shall rejoice.

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.**

Offering

Offertory

"Open My Eyes"

arr. Charles Callahan

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn 357

"The Days Are Surely Coming"

- 1 The days are surely coming, says God to all the earth,  
when you will see my promise: salvation come to birth.  
My righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land  
and you will be delivered by my almighty hand.
- 2 The days are surely coming, says Christ, the promised one,  
when you will read my warning in moon and stars and sun.  
Though earth and heaven tremble, stand up and do not fear,  
for I am your redeemer, and I am drawing near.

3 The days are surely coming when we will know at last the fullness of God's presence, God's promise, come to pass. Then righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land and we will be delivered by God's almighty hand.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

"Now Thank We All Our God"

arr. J. Wayne Kerr

**PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Pastor	Rev. William Carter
Liturgist	Myrna Diven
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck

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