

United Presbyterian Church

September 27th, 2020

11:00am

WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Thanks for worshiping with us. Whether you are with us from the pew or with us via your computer screen, we are so glad you're here. Remember, worship is about God and we focus our eyes and hearts on the One who is before all things. At the same time, we know that when we gather, we receive gracious gifts and experience the love of Christ as one church.

To prepare for worship, read the Words of Preparation; read and reflect upon the Scripture passage for today. Be intentional about connecting with God in your worship.

Words for Preparation

"In a very real sense not one of us is qualified, but it seems that God continually chooses the most unqualified to do his work, to bear his glory. If we are qualified, we tend to think that we have done the job ourselves. If we are forced to accept our evident lack of qualification, then there's no danger that we will confuse God's work with our own, or God's glory with our own."

-Madeleine L'Engle, Walking on Water: Reflections on Faith and Art, 20th century

Prelude

"The Call to Morning Prayer"

Franklin Ritter

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for Stewardship

Welcome Song

"Here in this Place"

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving
and the courts of God with praise.
Give thanks and bless God's holy name,
for the Lord is good
God's love is eternal
and God's faithfulness has no end.

Children's Message

Hymn No. 443 (Glory to God Hymnal) "There Is A Redeemer"

Call to Confession

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us.
Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence.

(Period of silence for personal confession)

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

Assurance of Pardon

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Gloria Patri

Anthem

“In Remembrance”

Jeffery Ames

Trey Mason, French Horn

Cynthia Hibbetts, Piano

Prayers of People and Lord’s Prayer

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Scripture Reading (New Revised Standard Version)

Philippians 2:1-13

1 If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Matthew 21:23-32

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do

these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today. 'He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“With Fear and Trembling”

Rev. Candice Womack

Affirmation of Faith

We believe there is no condemnation for those that are in Christ Jesus, for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, and who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers or height or depth or anything in all of creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

(Excerpt from Romans 8)

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

God has told us what is good; and what does the Lord require of you? To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

(Please use this time for silent prayer and reflection as you consider ways to offer your life, your gifts, time, and commitment to God. You may give online at upctx.org/giving OR as you enter or exit the church sanctuary today. There are two offering boxes available. One is located at the Narthex and the other along the Commons hallway. A bowl for the Noisy Offering will also be placed at each location)

Prayer of Dedication

Eternal God, creator of the world and giver of all good,

we thank you for the earth, our home, and for the gift of life.

We praise you for your love in Jesus Christ, who came to heal this broken world, who died rejected on the cross, and rose triumphant from the dead.

Because he lives, we live to praise you, our God forever. Amen.

Hymn

Glory to God 462

"I Love to Tell the Story"

Benediction

Choral Benediction

"Go Now In Peace"

Postlude

Fanfare on "Lyons"

Dan R. Edwards

Disciples: All Who Trust in Jesus Christ
Ministers: All Members of the Congregation
Pastor: Rev. Candice Richey Womack
Liturgist: Vicky Stauff
Safety Team Members: Rick Grayson, John Hill
Music Director: Dominick Stephenson
Organist: Cynthia Hibbetts
Family Ministries Coordinator: Heather Lind
Administrative Assistant: Pat De Mayo
Nursery Attendants: Martha Hill, J. R. Hill

THE SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Candice Richey Womack
Session Clerk: Stephanie Hogue

Class of 2020

Kathy Derby, Virginia
Rutherford, George
Warren

Class of 2021

John Hill, John Wasson,
Jerald Hicks, Stephanie
Hogue

Class of 2022

Jessica Morgan, Ray
Lancaster, David
Williams, Bob Mudie

TRUSTEES

Jim Rutherford (2020)
Heath Jarvis (2021)
Polly Adams (2022)