

United Presbyterian Church

November 8, 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

"Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee."

-Augustine of Hippo

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Welcome Song

"Here in this Place"

Call to Worship

Children's Message

Hymn No. 470 vs 1,2,&3

"There is a Longing in Our Heart"

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 " There is a Longing in Our Hearts" Douglas Wagner

Prayers of People and Lord's Prayer

Prayer for Illumination

Loving God, fountain of every blessing, open us to your life-giving word, and fill us with your Holy Spirit so that living water may flow through our hearts—a spring of hope for a thirsty world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 (New Revised Standard Version)

24:1 Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God.

24:2 And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors--Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor--lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods.

24:3a Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

24:14 "Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.

24:15 Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

24:16 Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods;

24:17 for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed;

24:18 and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

24:19 But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins.

24:20 If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good."

24:21 And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!"

24:22 Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses."

24:23 He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel."

24:24 The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey."

24:25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Psalm 78:1-7 (New Revised Standard Version)

78:1 Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

78:2 I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,

78:3 things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

78:4 We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

78:5 He established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children;

78:6 that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children,

78:7 so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Rev. Candice Womack

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostle's 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 Ourselves and Our Gifts

With what shall we come before the Lord this day? We come with a love of justice and a passion for sharing Christ's love. Let us walk in humble gratitude, offering to God a portion of the gifts that God freely shares with us, gifts for the healing of the world.

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 uptx.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

We thank you, God, that you have blessed us with an abundance of gifts for the flourishing of your world. May this offering of our life and labor reveal your love as we seek to share your promised reign with all creation. Amen.

Hymn No: 673

"Jesus, Light of Joy"

Benediction

Choral Benediction

"Go Now In Peace"

Postlude

Disciples: All Who Trust in Jesus Christ
 Ministers: All Members of the Congregation
 Pastor: Rev. Candice Richey Womack
 Liturgist: Bob Mudie
 Safety Team Members: Jerald Hicks and Jon Geer
 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)

MONDAY November 9	TUESDAY November 10	WEDNESDAY November 11	THURSDAY November 12	FRIDAY November 13	SATURDAY November 14	SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15
5:30 S&F Mtg. 6:00 Worship Mtg. 6:00 CECM	6:00 Safety Mtg	5:15-6:10 pm Scholarship Singers 6:15-7:10 pm Handbells	4:30 pm Yoga Class			Noisy Offering 11:00 am Worship Service