

First Presbyterian Church of Springfield
Order of Worship for the Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

July 19, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.

Worship Leader: Larry Dean

Moment with Young Disciples: Mary Jessica Woodrum

Organist: Mike Belote

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

Call to Worship

We are here to worship the living God,

who knit us together and welcomes us with a parent's embrace.

We are here to worship the almighty God,

who knows our hearts and still loves us completely.

We are here to worship the eternal God,

who seeks us wherever we are and shepherds us with a guiding hand.

Prayer of the Day Sovereign God, protector of all who put their trust in you, without whom nothing is strong or noble: fill us with your grace, so that, with you to guide, we may so use the good things of this present life that we do not neglect those of eternal worth. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn of Praise

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

Glory to God #435

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea. There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind. And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word, and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

Call to Confession God has shown his amazing love in this: while we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith, we dare to approach God with confidence. Let us join in our unison prayer of confession.

Prayer of Confession O Lord, you have searched us and known us. You know when we cultivate kindness and our lives bear fruit that blesses the world. You know when our words sow seeds of discord and our actions stifle grace. When we produce more weeds than wheat, forgive us. As we wait with eager

longing for your reign to be revealed, plant in our hearts your gift of mercy, so that we might live as children of your kingdom and bear fruit that enriches your harvest. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Hear the good news: the Lord does not treat us as our sins deserve. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God's love for those who revere him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our transgressions from us. **Thanks be to God.**

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer for Illumination God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out on us your Spirit of wisdom and understanding so that our hearts and minds may be opened to hear what you say to us today. Amen.

Old Testament Passage Genesis 28:10 – 19a

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Moment with Young Disciples

Musical Interlude "There Is a Redeemer" *Glory to God #443*
There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son: precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son, and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names, precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain.

When I stand in glory, I will see his face; there I'll serve my King forever in that holy place.

New Testament Passage Romans 8:12 – 25

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "The Great Escape: What the Bible Says When You Want to Get Out of Dodge"
The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

Affirmation of Faith Adapted from *The Confession of 1967, 9.32-33*

The life, death, resurrection, and promised return of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human wellbeing. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his return, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The

church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

Call to Offering In gratitude to God for all that he has provided for us, let us present our gifts and offerings.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication Gracious God, you have rescued us from despair and death by the glorious resurrection of Christ your Son. Now you remain with us and empower us by your Holy Spirit. Turn our hearts to respond with compassion to people who are struggling in this difficult time. We renew our commitment to serve you through our church's mission outreach. Use these tithes and gifts to shine the light of the risen Christ in Springfield and throughout the world. We pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Hymn of Dedication "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" *Glory to God #716*

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one. Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone. Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred: ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word. Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call, healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

Invitation to Discipleship and Benediction

Announcements

Sunday, July 19, 2020

Midweek Bible Study "Conversion of Nineveh" is the theme of chapter 3 of Jonah in our study which meets at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 22, via Zoom. This is the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85426343714> . Email Pastor Rosanna rosanna@pastorrosanna.net for the password.

Adult Sunday School "Reclaiming Sabbath Time: The Sacred Art of Ceasing" is the theme of chapter 5 in *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life* by Marjorie Thompson. Pastor Rosanna will lead the class on July 19 at 9:45 a.m. via Zoom at this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86415059778> . Pastor Rosanna has the password.

Coming Soon: Project JOY! School supplies, but no clothing, are needed this year for our contribution to the Appalachian Ministry to the children of Harlan, Kentucky. All the details are in a special email for the congregation.

Mission Opportunities Please contact Ross or Linda Thomas for drop off information.

Loose Change for The Master's Table

Plastic Bags for Meals on Wheels

United Ministries Food Item for July and August: Powdered Milk

Prayer List Look over our list and if you know of someone who needs to be added, notify Administrative Assistant Megan Lowe at the church office at 1stpres@bellsouth.net. Please provide the address for those who are not church members so that we may send them a prayer card.

May we keep in our prayers all the individuals and families affected by Covid-19.

“God will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”
(Revelation 21:3b-4)

Linda Alldredge Alison Barnwell Dale Boyter Ethelene Burnett Louis Burnett

Kyle Craighead Rush Limbaugh Betty Murphey Jerry Stuard

Family of Mike Frost Family of Mickey Hyde

Worship Services Online We will continue to celebrate Sunday worship services online until further notice. We have suspended all congregational and public gatherings in our church facilities to help stop the spread of Covid-19. Join us for worship on YouTube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7GCqiHtl7JXZln1_fzePSg at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays. A more information is posted on the church's Facebook page and our website <https://www.springfieldpres.org/> .