

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

World Communion Sunday, October 4, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

Organist: Mike Belote

Worship Leader: Larry Dean

Moment with Young Disciples: Mary Jessica Woodrum

Minute for Mission: Rosemary Sprague

Welcome and Announcements

We Approach God

Call to Worship

Psalm 80

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned on the cherubim.

Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

You prepared the ground for the vine that you planted; it took root and filled the land.

Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine. We worship you, O Lord our God.

Prayer of the Day Everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we desire. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. Amen.

Hymn of Praise “I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art” *Glory to God* 624

I greet thee, who my sure Redeemer art, my only trust and Savior of my heart, who pain didst undergo for my poor sake. I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.

Thou art the life, by which alone we live, and all our substance and our strength receive; sustain us by thy faith and by thy power, and give us strength in every trying hour.

Our hope is in no other save in thee; our faith is built up on thy promise free; Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure, that in thy strength we evermore endure.

Call to Confession God made these promises in Psalm 91: “Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue them and honor them. With long life I will satisfy them and show them my salvation.” In faith, let us join in our prayer of confession.

Prayer of Confession God of the covenant, long ago you gave us the law to guide us in the ways of righteousness. When we wandered, you called prophets to beckon us toward faithfulness. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son to heal our brokenness and draw us close to you. But, time and again, we reject your gift of grace. We bow before the false gods of our world. We forget your command to serve the least of these. We fill our days with self-serving agendas or trivial tasks and neglect to nurture our relationship with you. Forgive us, Lord. Come to us again by your Spirit and set us on right paths. Help us to root out habits that separate us from you. Sow within us seeds of mercy so that we might produce the fruit of your kingdom. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Hear the good news! “God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him” (John 3:17). In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

God Speaks to Us Through God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination Gracious God, send your Holy Spirit to give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that, with the eyes of our hearts enlightened, we may know the hope to which Christ has called us, the riches of his glorious inheritance among us, and the greatness of his power for those who believe. **Amen.** (Based on Ephesians 1:17-19)

Old Testament Passage Psalm 19

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

Moment with Young Disciples

New Testament Passage Matthew 21:33 – 46

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

Sermon “The Glory of God’s Law” Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

We Respond to God’s Word

Affirmation of Faith *Nicene Creed, 1.1-3*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Minute for Mission Peace & Global Witness Special Offering of the PC(U.S.A.)

Call to the Offering The apostle Paul wrote, “You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich” (2 Cor 8:9). Let us give financial support to the ministries and mission of our church.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication Almighty God, your wondrous creation testifies to your wisdom. We are in awe of you as we witness an eclipse or a glorious sunset. When a hurricane causes destruction, we ponder your power and feel vulnerable. We would be lost without your life-giving word! Thank you for befriending us in Christ, your word made flesh. May your Spirit give us a loving, childlike heart to reflect your kindness each day. Receive our offerings in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks ... (the prayer continues).

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, O God of majesty ... (the prayer continues).

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us ... (the prayer continues).

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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.

Communion of the People and Prayer After Communion

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this Sacrament... (the prayer continues).

God Sends Us into the World

Hymn of Dedication

“O Word of God Incarnate”

Glory to God 459

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high, O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky: we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The church from you, dear Savior, received this gift divine; and still that light is lifted on all the earth to shine. It is the chart and compass, all life's voyage through, amid the rocks and quick sands still guides, O Christ, to you.

O make your church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold to bear before the nations your true light, as of old; O teach your wandering pilgrims by this our path to trace, till, clouds and storms thus ended, we see you face to face.

Invitation to Discipleship and Benediction

Dr. Anderson

Announcements

Sunday, October 4, 2020

Special Offering This morning, we will receive an offering for Peace and Global Witness, one of the four annual special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA). This year's theme is “Building God's Household of Peace.”

World Communion Sunday on October 4 We will celebrate the Lord's Supper like Christians in the early church did, in our homes. Elders will contact members about distributing the communion elements of individually-wrapped grape juice and bread. If you have difficulty connecting with Wifi at home, you may want to plan to visit a friend or family member to share in our online service of worship on Sunday morning. You can also watch worship services on your mobile phone. We look forward to celebrating the presence of our risen Lord Jesus with us in this meaningful way.

Mission Opportunities Please contact Ross or Linda Thomas for drop off information at 615-772-4870. We are collecting **loose change** for The Master's Table, **plastic bags** for Meals on Wheels, and the targeted food item is **canned fruit**.

Zoom Coffee Hour After worship, please join us for virtual fellowship via Zoom.

Adult Sunday School We are studying *Love for One Another, The Present Word Fall 2020* curriculum. We meet with Pastor Rosanna via Zoom at 9:45 a.m. The link is in the congregational email.

“Wisdom in Proverbs” Our midweek Bible study meets on Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. The link is in the congregational email.

Grief Share If you or someone you know would like to learn more about a Grief Share group, please contact church member Phyllis Osborne at phyllisaosborne@gmail.com.

Prayer List If you know of someone who needs to be added to our list, please notify Administrative Assistant Megan Lowe at the church office at 1stprez@bellsouth.net. Provide the address for those who are not church members so we may send them a prayer card.

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

Ed Alexander	Rosanne Alexander	Linda Alldredge	Alison Barnwell
Dale Boyter	Ethelene Burnett	Louis Burnett	Kyle Craighead
Phyllis Gunn	Paige Kerr	Amanda Martelli	Charley Mirabile
Betty Murphey	Sharon Robinson	Jerry Stuard	Elizabeth Read

President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump
everyone affected by the wildfires in California and Oregon

Bereaved: Families of Mike Frost, Mickey Hyde, Ben Lewis, Sue Reynolds, Kaly Wright

Worship Services Online Out of love and concern for our congregation and community, we have suspended all congregational and public gatherings in our church facilities while COVID-19 is circulating in Robertson County. Join us for worship on YouTube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7GCqiHtl7JXZln1_fzePSg at 11:15 a.m. on Sundays. More information is posted on the church’s Facebook page and our website <https://www.springfieldpres.org/>.