

New St. Peter's Presbyterian Church
Celebration of Worship
March 31, 2019

Striking of the Hour *“Praise to the Lord the Almighty”*

Call to Worship (Luke 13)

Church, strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.

Liturgy of the Word (Luke 13 and Psalm 147)

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! **Behold, your house is forsaken. And you will not see Christ until you say, “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”** And yet the LORD builds up Jerusalem. He gathers the outcasts of Israel. **He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. The LORD lifts up the humble, but He casts the wicked to the ground.**

Invocation

Hymn: *“Immortal, Invisible”*

Hymn: *“O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”*

Confession of Sin and Plea for Pardon (Luke 13)

O Lord, forgive our sins we pray, for the salvation of Your kingdom is the only hope that can lift us up. **We confess that we have presumed upon Your grace. Our religious activities, our religious knowledge, and our religious relationships give us a false sense of religious security. In our hearts we often think that to stand in Your presence we don't need Jesus, yet the door is too narrow without Him. We fear that the world will overcome Your kingdom because we have forgotten Your power. And we forget that in great compassion You have invited us to trust You, so we neglect Your love. Father, forgive us. Help us. Increase our faith, and let us rejoice in the salvation that Your kingdom brings.**

Worshippers may continue to confess their sins in silence.

Assurance of Pardon (Galatians 5 and Titus 2) and Intercessory Prayer

Beloved, Christ gave Himself up for us to set us free from every kind of lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people who are truly His, who are eager to do good. **For freedom Christ has set us free. Therefore, let us stand firm and not submit again to a yoke of slavery. Since we have been called to freedom, let us not use our freedom as an opportunity to indulge the flesh, but to serve one another through love. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

A reading from the Psalms: Having set His King of salvation on Zion, God mocks with laughter the worldly powers that oppose Him. (Psalm 2:1-12)

Sharing the Peace of Christ

May the peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Doxology *“Praise to the Lord the Almighty”*

Sermon: *“Salvation in the Kingdom of God”* (Luke 13:22-35)

The 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.

Words of Institution and Fencing the Table (Luke 12; Luke 22)

He took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

The hairs of our heads are numbered because of His faithful love. So we will have no fear, for He has valued our lives in Christ.

He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.”

And so we will acknowledge Him before men, because by His grace He has presented us before the Father as His own.

Come to the Table...

Communion Hymn: *“Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners”*

Communion Hymn: *“Psalm 61 (Hear My Cry, O God)”*

Communion Hymn: *“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”*

Communion Hymn: *“Approach My Soul the Mercy Seat”*

Parting Liturgy (John 6)

Church, the Lord Jesus says to us, **“All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.”**

Benediction (1 Timothy 6)

Now may you fight the good fight of the faith and take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you have made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

Come quickly, Lord Jesus! Amen.