

**5th Sunday after Pentecost
July 14, 2019
“Christian Nation or Nation of Christians”**



Delta Presbyterian Church

Strengthening Christ in us

Sharing Christ among us

Showing Christ around us

www.deltapresby.org

Order of Worship
July 14, 2019
5th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude
Tolling of the Bell

Frederick Isaac, Pianist

Gathering for Worship

****Singspiration** **Come, Christians, Join to Sing**

Their eyes are open but don't see a thing,
Their ears are open but don't hear a thing. Luke 8, 10b (MSG)

Father I Adore You

Strengthening Christ in Us

Prayer of Confession

Art Kelley, Lay Leader

God of our faith, God of the descended nations of Abraham, universal God, there are times when we see deceit, injustice, and misrepresentation, and we do nothing. We feel incapable to stand up for what we know to be right. Forgive us, Lord, for our lack of fortitude and faith in Your strength. Hear us now as we offer to you our personal shortcomings.

Time for silent prayer

We commit ourselves to

**Strengthening Christ in us,
Sharing Christ among us, and
Showing Christ around us. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Galatians 3:14

Christ redeemed us so that the blessing of Abraham would come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus.

We receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

****Passing of the Peace**

****Response** **Glory Be to the Father** (Avery & Marsh)

Scripture Lesson **Matthew 13:10-17** (MSG)

¹⁰ The disciples came up and asked, "Why do you tell stories?"

¹¹⁻¹⁵ He replied, "You've been given insight into God's kingdom. You know how it works. Not everybody has this gift, this insight; it hasn't been given to them. Whenever someone has a ready heart for this, the insights and understandings flow freely. But if there is no readiness, any trace of receptivity soon disappears. That's why I tell stories: to create readiness, to nudge the people toward receptive insight. In their present state they can stare till doomsday and not see it, listen till they're blue in the face and not get it. I don't want Isaiah's forecast repeated all over again:

Your ears are open but you don't hear a thing.

Your eyes are awake but you don't see a thing.

The people are blockheads!

They stick their fingers in their ears

so they won't have to listen;

They screw their eyes shut

so they won't have to look,
so they won't have to deal with me face-to-face
and let me heal them.

¹⁶⁻¹⁷ “But you have God-blessed eyes—eyes that see! And God-blessed ears—ears that hear! A lot of people, prophets and humble believers among them, would have given anything to see what you are seeing, to hear what you are hearing, but never had the chance.

Hymn

Great Are You Lord

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (MSG)

¹³ ¹⁻³ At about that same time Jesus left the house and sat on the beach. In no time at all a crowd gathered along the shoreline, forcing him to get into a boat. Using the boat as a pulpit, he addressed his congregation, telling stories.

³⁻⁸ “What do you make of this? A farmer planted seed. As he scattered the seed, some of it fell on the road, and birds ate it. Some fell in the gravel; it sprouted quickly but didn't put down roots, so when the sun came up it withered just as quickly. Some fell in the weeds; as it came up, it was strangled by the weeds. Some fell on good earth, and produced a harvest beyond his wildest dreams.

⁹ “Are you listening to this? Really listening?”

¹⁸⁻¹⁹ “Study this story of the farmer planting seed. When anyone hears news of the kingdom and doesn't take it in, it just remains on the surface, and so the Evil One comes along and plucks it right out of that person's heart. This is the seed the farmer scatters on the road.

²⁰⁻²¹ “The seed cast in the gravel—this is the person who hears and instantly responds with enthusiasm. But there is no soil of character, and so when the emotions wear off and some difficulty arrives, there is nothing to show for it.

²² “The seed cast in the weeds is the person who hears the kingdom news, but weeds of worry and illusions about getting more and wanting everything under the sun strangle what was heard, and nothing comes of it.

²³ “The seed cast on good earth is the person who hears and takes in the News, and then produces a harvest beyond his wildest dreams.”

Children's Sermon

Hymn

Jesus Loves the Little Children (vs. 1)
(Children may go back to their seats or to the PrayGround)

Proclamation of the Word **Christian Nation or Nation of Christians**

Elder Frank Jackson

²³ “The seed cast on good earth is the person who hears and takes in the News, and then produces a harvest beyond his wildest dreams.” Matthew 13, 23

**Hymn of Response

In Christ There is No East or West

Sharing Christ Among Us-- Showing Christ Around Us

Offering

****Response**

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Life in the Community

Prayers for Those Among & Around Us/Lord's Prayer

****Closing Hymn**

Be Thou My Vision

****Challenge & Blessing**

****Closing Response**

In The Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

Postlude

***Please stand if you are able*



Welcome to Delta Presbyterian Church!

We are pleased to have you worshipping with us this morning. We provide this information to help you fully participate in the worship of God. Please take a moment to sign the guest book on the stand in the back of the sanctuary (worship space) to the left of the drinking fountain.

We invite you to stay for our fellowship time following the service. Feel free to help yourself to the coffee and hot water (for tea) that is available in the back of the sanctuary before and after worship.

Everything you need to participate in worship is on the screen. If you are able, you are invited to stand when the congregation stands.

Restrooms are in the back of the sanctuary on the left.

There is information on the activities at Delta on the counter in the Commitment Center. The Commitment Center is on your left as you leave the sanctuary.

We welcome the sound of children in worship. If your young child is distracting to **you**, you are welcome to do any of the following:

- Get up and move to the back. The colorful bags have small items designed to keep children busy. They are welcome to play with them on the floor in front of the Commitment Center, or you may take the bags to your seats.
- There is a nursery available downstairs. Exit the sanctuary via the door on the right and go straight down the stairs. The nursery (101) is at the foot of the steps on the right.
- There is a cry room (202) where you can take your child. Instead of going downstairs, go down the hall and the cry room is on the right. You can view the worship service through a window. The cry room is equipped with a changing table.

Preschool through early elementary children are dismissed following the Children's Sermon. They may either return to their seats or go to the PrayGround at the front of the church.

Church Office Summer Hours

Tuesday - Friday, 9:00am – 2:00pm

Delta Presbyterian Church

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