



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Place to Believe, Belong, and Become

*Living as disciples of Jesus, practicing hospitality,  
bringing hope through worship, prayer, and fellowship*

July 26, 2020

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PRELUDE "Be Thou My Vision" Arr. D. Wagner traditional Irish melody "Slane"

## CALL TO WORSHIP

We have come here together

**in the Presence of an awesome Host.**

Here is patience and generosity, beyond our imagining.

**Here is love and joy beyond our dreaming.**

O give thanks to God who is so good,

**whose love goes on forever!**

"WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE  
SPLendor OF HIS HOLINESS;  
TREMBLE BEFORE HIM, ALL  
THE EARTH."  
- PSALM 96:9

INVOCATION *(Let us join in as we invoke the majesty and greatness of God)*

**Almighty God, we are in awe of your magnificent power displayed through the entire universe, for through you all things were made, and all things have their being. We come before you with grateful thanks and with hearts that long to adore you and worship only you. Lord, may we know the presence of the Holy Spirit here with us today. May we be open to your leading, sensitive to you speaking and alert to your calling. Father, we invite the same power that was at work when Jesus was raised from the grave to be present with us here now. Lord, we declare that you are welcome here amongst us. Amen.**

HYMN

"Morning Has Broken"

Morning has broken, like the first morning / Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird  
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning / Praise for them springing fresh from the Word

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from Heaven / Like the first dew fall, on the first grass  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden / Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning / Born of the one light Eden saw play  
Praise with elation, praise every morning / God's re-creation of the new day

CALL TO CONFESSION

God's merciful arms are open, even before we repent and turn to him. Let us pray.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Let us open hearts and minds as we join in)*

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.**

**Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.**

*pause for silent confession*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Listen to this word: "Where sin abounds love much more abounds." Receive from such abundance and give thanks. You, my sisters and brothers, are among the richest people in the world. You have the wealth of Christ with you always, even to the end of time.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (*Feel free to offer your greetings in the Chat Box*)

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all! **And also with you.**

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:  
World without end. Amen. Amen.*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 130

- <sup>1</sup> Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD;
- <sup>2</sup> Lord, hear my voice.  
Let your ears be attentive  
to my cry for mercy.
- <sup>3</sup> If you, LORD, kept a record of sins,  
Lord, who could stand?
- <sup>4</sup> But with you there is forgiveness,  
so that we can, with reverence, serve you.
- <sup>5</sup> I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,  
and in his word I put my hope.
- <sup>6</sup> I wait for the Lord  
more than watchmen wait for the morning,  
more than watchmen wait for the morning.
- <sup>7</sup> Israel, put your hope in the LORD,  
for with the LORD is unfailing love  
and with him is full redemption.
- <sup>8</sup> He himself will redeem Israel  
from all their sins.



This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

"That's Where the Joy Comes From"

John Elliott

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 21:34-36

"Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"Watch and Pray"

Pastor Banu Moore

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH based on Romans 8

**We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose.**

**We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN

“Live into Hope”

Live into hope of captives freed, / of sight regained, the end of greed.  
The oppressed shall be the first to see / the year of God’s own jubilee!

Live into hope! The blind shall see / with insight and with clarity,  
Removing shades of pride and fear, / a vision of our God brought near.

Live into hope of liberty, / the right to speak, the right to be,  
The right to have one’s daily bread, / to hear God’s word and thus be fed.

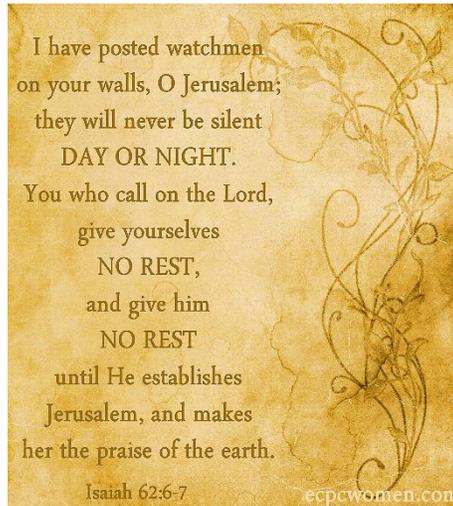
JOYS AND CONCERNS

*We will have a communal sharing time first with those who have video access and then with those who are on their land lines. Please also feel free to share your joys and concerns in the Chat Box.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be 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.**



OFFERING “If with All Your Hearts” from “Elijah,” F. Mendelssohn Arr. L. Leatherman

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; / Praise Him, all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; / Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(Let us join in along as we give thanks for God’s daily provision)*

**Our Shield and Defender, you have taught us how to trust your goodness and lay up treasure in heaven; we offer you gifts in response to your Word. We bring you a portion of what our labor has gained in thankful praise for the abundance we have. We give you our souls in humble obedience, for in Christ we inherit eternal life. Be pleased with our offerings; they are signs of your mercy. Amen.**

HYMN

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, / God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, / Opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; / Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, / Fill us with the light of day!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, / Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, / Center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, / Flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain / Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus, / Which the morning stars began;  
Love divine is reigning o'er us, / Joining all in heaven's plan.  
Ever singing march we onward, / Victors in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music leads us sunward / In the triumph song of life.

BENEDICTION      "Postlude in D"      C. Simper      Arr. M. Ryan

POSTLUDE

4 VERSES TO PRAY OVER  
YOUR HOME

LORD, MAY OUR HOME BE A PLACE OF:

**H** HEALING WORDS  
The tongue of the wise brings healing. Proverbs 12:18b

**O** OVERFLOWING HOPE, PEACE & JOY  
May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

**M** MERCY, LOVE & JUSTICE  
He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

**E** ENCOURAGEMENT  
Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11