



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Place to Believe, Belong, and Become

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

August 16, 2020
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PRELUDE

“As the Deer”

Arr. M. Hayes

CALL TO WORSHIP

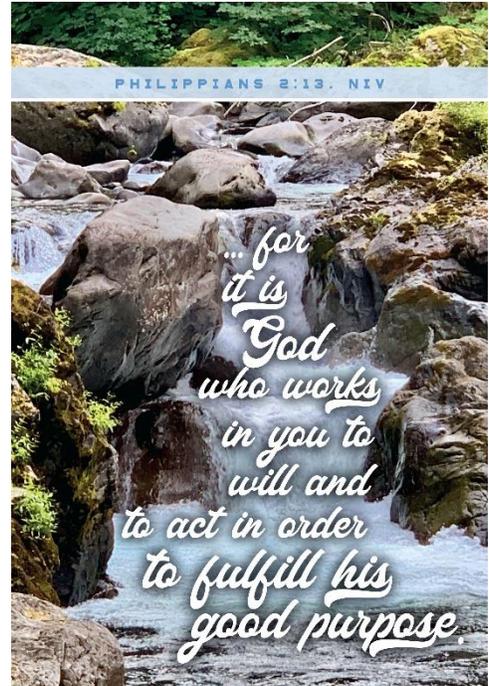
We all need to belong.

Christ has broken down all barriers;
we are all as one in Christ Jesus.

How good it is and how lovely it feels
when sisters and brothers can live together in unity.
Let us worship the God who binds us together
with love!

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

**Our small minds, little lives, and scanty
understanding, we bring to you, Holy God. Yours
are the truth we crave, the beauty we worship,
and the love we adore. Please bless us as we
gather, for with your blessing we are the poor who
have immense riches to celebrate and share. To
your honor and praise, through Christ Jesus our
Brother and Lord. Amen.**



HYMN

“O Worship the King, All Glorious Above”

O worship the King, all glorious above, / O gratefully sing God’s power and God’s love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, / Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite? / It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, / And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, / In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end, / Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The proof of God’s amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in Christ, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence let us confess our sin before God and one another.

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

God of all mercy, give us grace to make a fresh start today. We know we have not loved you with our whole heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.

As we hope to be forgiven, teach us also to forgive; and lead us forward in a new life where neither grudges nor resentment have a part; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

pause for silent confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Family of God, God knows your need before you ask for help. There is enough mercy to cover all your sins, and not yours only, but those of the whole world. Therefore, put the past and its errors behind you. Live as forgiven people, for in Christ, such you truly are!

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 133

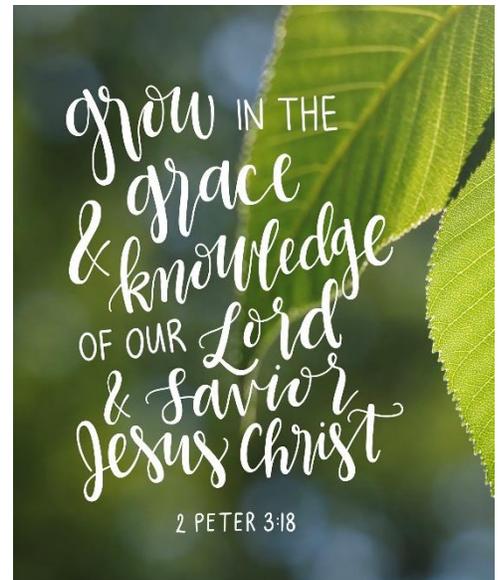
How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

² It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.

³ It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

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

ANTHEM “Allegro” Vivaldi arr. Fishburn
Erin Kennedy, cello



EPISTLE LESSON

James 2:1-7, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ² For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³ and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,” ⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷ Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷ So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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

SERMON

“Fear the Poor”

Pastor James Moore

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

—*from the Book of Order (F-1.0301)*

The Church is to be a community of faith, entrusting itself to God alone, even at the risk of losing its life.

The Church is to be a community of love, where sin is forgiven, reconciliation is accomplished, and the dividing walls of hostility are torn down.

The Church is to be a community of witness, pointing beyond itself through word and work to the good news of God’s transforming grace in Christ Jesus its Lord.

HYMN

“Blessed Assurance”

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! /
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, /
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song, /
Praising my Savior, all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song, /
Praising my Savior, all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, /
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above /
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain

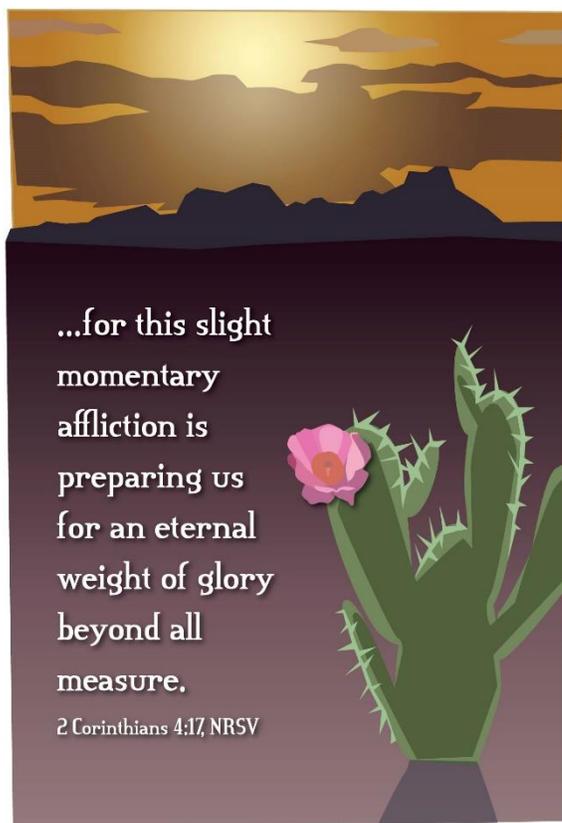
Perfect submission, all is at rest /
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above, /
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Refrain

JOYS AND CONCERNS

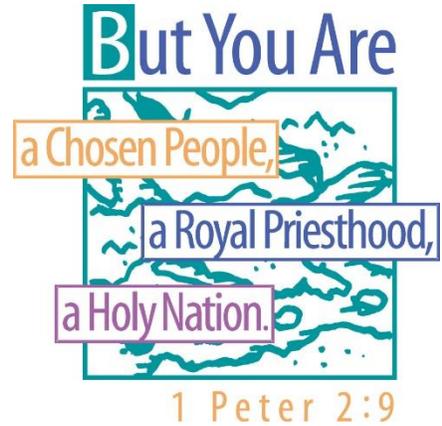
We will have a communal sharing time first with those who have video access and then with those who are on their land lines. Please also feel free to share your joys and concerns in the Chat Box.

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

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Arr. M. Hayes

DOXOLOGY

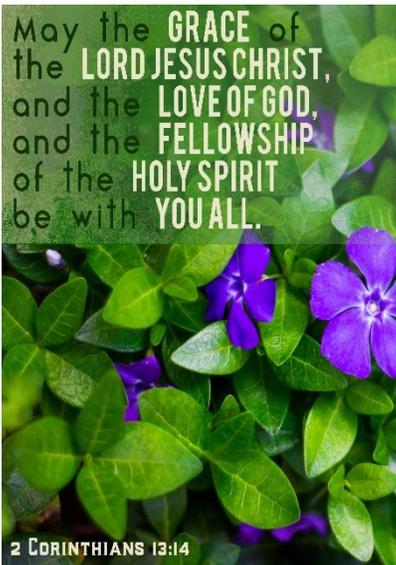
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; / Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; / Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

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

There are those who would be glad with the crumbs from your table, O God; we have received your gifts in abundance. Make us mindful of those who are needy, as we bring you our tithes and our offerings. Use them to ease the pain of those who are suffering. As we serve others, use us to fulfill your will. Amen.

HYMN

“Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”



‘Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, / Just to take Him at His word;
Just to rest upon His promise, / Just to know, Thus says the Lord!

Refrain

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! / How I’ve proved Him o’er and o’er;
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! / O for grace to trust Him more!

Yes, ‘tis sweet to trust in Jesus, / Just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking / Life and rest, and joy and peace.

Refrain

I’m so glad I learned to trust Thee, / Precious Jesus, Savior, friend;
And I know that Thou art with me, / Wilt be with me to the end.

Refrain

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Marching to Zion”

G. Parker

ZOOM ACCESS AND OTHER INFORMATION FOR SUNDAY AND NEXT WEEK

Worship Ordinary 20, August 16, 10:00am
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87673984279>
Meeting ID: 876 7398 4279
Dial In: 646 558 8656
301 715 8592 (alternate number)

Intercessory Prayer Meeting
Tuesday, August 18, 2020 10:00am
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87319385255>
Meeting ID: 873 1938 5255
Dial in: 646 558 8656
301 715 8592 (alternate number)

2 Corinthians Bible study (chap.)
Thursday, Aug 20, 2020 7:00pm
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82690595777>
Meeting ID: 826 9059 5777
Dial in: 646 558 8656
301 715 8592 (alternate number)

Pastor Banu is working on August newsletter in digital form with links as well as in print form. If you have any news, poems, art, stories, photos, etc. to contribute to our newsletter, please e-mail Pastor Banu at revbanu@protonmail.com or call her at 315.406.3570.

INVITATION TO PRAYER

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Short Term

Danny Karlik
George Raymond
Al Steigerwald
Megan & Vicki
Mike Crary
Kyle Bartlett
Stacy Coleman
Genny Salvatore
Noah Mensing
David Coleman
Terri Miller
Sarah Vitale
Terry Knapp
Teegan
Susanna R.
Terri Moore
Muriel White
Nicholas Flynn
Lexi
Lois
Margarita Martinez
Donna in PA
Jan Bartlett

Luann Morin
Larry Simmons
Joseph
Laura Conley
Sandy Slack
Betty Emo
Margaret Wylie
Dorothy Noble

Long Term

Jared Clark
Bob & Lucia Short
Bob Schuster
Wyn Wilson
Nancy Canale
Colleen Pinckney
Carl Mattison
Brian Dahl
Rafferty Family
Becky Denton
Damian Moore
Chris Coleman
Sean K.
Tracy B.

Ben Miller
Marcella Savarese
Michael Graybill
David Tanner
Candy Graham
Lynne Osburn
Mary Casselman
Terri Young
Michael Holmes
Leeroy & Betty Green
Lois James
Dan Lupo
Darryl Schmidt
Laurie Connors
Ann Landers
Franny Hansen
Angi Tharakan (Asha & Amrit)
Kevin Casselman
Jay Clark & Emily
David Bartlett
Bob Wright
Charles Zambito

FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHO ARE GRIEVING AFTER LOSS

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Harold & Joyce Short | Cristobal Gomez-Ramos | Roger Graham |
| Dorothy Balko | Jeffrey Campbell | Jim Smith |
| Charlotte Pedersen | George Floyd | John Turney |
| Jeremy & Molly | Kim Whiffen | <i>We pray for all those who</i> |
| Eric Keough | Marion Cunningham | <i>are grieving loved ones</i> |
| Barb Estep | Joe Flanigan | <i>lost to the virus...</i> |
| Jeannette Chappell | Vic Fandrich | |
| Lloyd Holdredge | Sue Baird | |

Special Prayer Needs

- Leaders of our church: elders, deacons, staff, pastors, Presbytery
- Holy Spirit–led guidance for our country’s leaders as we work together for unity
- Those who are in confined spaces during this pandemic, especially those who are in nursing homes and prisons as well as pregnant mothers
- Safety of our healthcare workers and first responders
- Congregational transformation in a virtual world
- Health of our earth, farmers
- People involved in wars: resolution of conflict and for peace
- Opportunities provided to the body of Christ in sharing the Gospel so that a great harvest is being sown for the Kingdom
- Persecution of Christians and others in the world
- Improved race relations in our community and country
- Drug epidemic; pray for addicted and children involved

MISSIONARIES AND LOCAL AGENCIES

Gildards (France), Birds (Tyrone, GA), Esslinger–Lees (South Korea), Calvary Food Pantry & other food pantries, Chapel House, Hospice, Matthew House, Rescue Mission, Salvation Army, HUGS (Help Understanding Grief), Hospital, Prison Ministry.

WE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE ON THE FRONTLINES DAILY, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHOM WE KNOW AND ARE CLOSE TO US...

Doctors, Nurses, NPs, PAs, EMTs, Pharmacists, Fire Fighters, Police Officers, Corrections Officers, Lab Workers, Navy Hospitals Staff, National Guard, Army Corps of Engineers... Lord you know them all by name lest we forget...

Truckers, bus drivers, grocery store employees, delivery people—everyone who deals with the public!

