

opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, **“Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.”** ²³And he solemnly swore to her, **“Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.”** ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, *“What should I ask for?”* She replied, *“The head of John the baptizer.”* ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, *“I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.”* ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her.

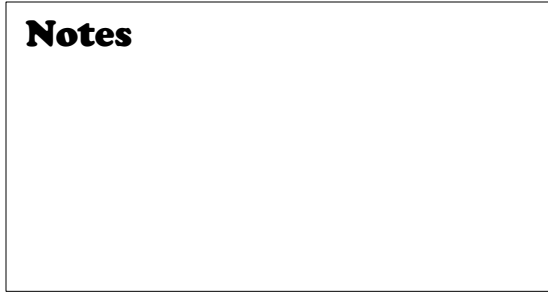
²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John’s head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

Hymn *Fairest Lord Jesus* #306
Sermon Rev. Sharon Carter

Responding in Faith

Affirmation of Faith from *A Brief Statement of Faith*, PCUSA
In life and in death we belong to

Notes



God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve... In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!” With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Service of Giving
 Prayer of Dedication Offering Music
+Response *Glory Be to the Father*
 #577

Sharing of Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People

Going into the World
+Hymn *Lord Make Us More Holy* #535
+Charge and Benediction
+Postlude

MISSION



FELLOWSHIP

WORSHIP



THE BODY OF CHRIST



Community of Faith Presbyterian Church

July 15, 2018

+Stand as you are able

Leader reads plain type, Congregation reads bold

Preparing Ourselves

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ candle

+Call to Worship *Psalm 24:1-6*

L: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;

P: for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

L: Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?

P: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.

L: They will receive blessing from the LORD, and vindication from the God of their salvation.

P: Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Selah

+Opening Prayer

Let us pray: **Loving God, you are holy and awesome and yet you love us as your created human beings, regardless of who we are or what we**

look like. You love the other creatures of the world and all of your creation in the same way. Grant to us the ability to love our fellow humans and the whole of creation the way that you love us. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray in this way: ***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.***

+Hymn *The King of Glory Comes*
STF 2091

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of loving compassion, as

Who is Jesus to you? Where do you see Jesus in your life?

reflections of you we have much potential for goodness, mercy and justice. But our good intentions go undone and our promises unkept, leaving your world a broken and troubled place. Have mercy on us, O God; bring us back when we go astray; soften our hearts when they become hardened; and lead us all in the way of Christ, for your sake and the sake of all who live in your good creation.

(moment of silence)

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: When we follow the way of Jesus we take on a new life—a life in which our compassionate love for others is renewed. In this new life we are reconnected with God and our fellow human beings, living at peace with all.

P: A life lived in Jesus Christ brings us closer to God and those around us, and we are healed and renewed.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Song *Spirit of the Living God* #322

The Peace

L: As we are renewed in our relationship with God, let us also be reconciled to one another: the Peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

Special Music

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination Give us

Why does Mark tell this story of John the Baptist's beheading?

ears to hear, minds to understand and hearts to act on these words from scripture today. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Mark 6: 14-29 ¹⁴King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him."

¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her.

¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But an