

NEW! Toll free call in number! (844) 855-4444, access code 654132#



COF Worship, June 14, 2020, 10:30 am

Opening Music

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship and Prayer of Approach

L: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. ²Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

P: ³Know that the LORD is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

L: ⁴Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.

P: ⁵For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Let us pray: **Shepherding God, as we come together today in this time of worship and praise, lament and longing, make your presence among us known so that we might more fully believe in your goodness, your light and your love. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray: *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.*** Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 332). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Song: Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

*Savior like a shepherd lead us, much we need your tender care
In your pleasant pastures feed us, for our use your folds prepare
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us we are yours
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us we are yours*

*You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be
You have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse and power to free
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.*

*Early let us seek your favor, early let us do your will
Blessed Lord and only savior, with your love our bosoms fill,
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still.*

Call to Confession

Broken as we are
 Living in a time of worry and fear and isolation
 We are beloved people of God.
 God doesn't "need" our confessions
 But uses them to heal us
 For we know that,
 to admit you have made a mistake
 Is the first step to making it right.
 Let us share with God and ourselves and each other
 The places where we have fallen short
 As a community
 As a people
 As human beings.
 Let us pray:

**Blessed are you, O God of mercy, for the countless times you have forgiven us.
 Blessed are you, O God of Justice, for the many ways you overlook our stubbornness and
 offer healing instead of punishment.
 Teach us, O God of unconditional love, how to forgive those who displease me, how to have
 mercy and compassion toward all who confront me.
 Fill me with the gentleness of Jesus, who absorbed violence and anger and returned only
 love. (moment of silence.)**

As God hears our confessions,
 may we hear God say in return:
*I forgive you,
 I love you always,
 And I am with you.*
 Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

Response of Praise

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me (repeat)
 Meld me, mold me, fill me, use me
 Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

Special Music

Prayer for Illumination

*Listen to the Word
 Listen to the word that God has spoken
 Listen to the one who is close at hand
 Listen to the voice that began creation
 Listen even if you don't understand*

Scripture Romans 5:1-8

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of

sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.

⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Hymn Amazing Grace

*Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me;
I once was lost and now am found, was blind but now I see*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved,
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!*

*Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun.*

Scripture Matthew

³⁵Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness...

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' ⁸Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. ⁹Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, ¹⁰no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. ¹¹Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. ¹²As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith—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.

Offering

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Song: *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere Lord, anytime (repeat)

I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere Lord, anytime (repeat)

I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere Lord, anytime (repeat)

I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere Lord, anytime (repeat)

Charge and Benediction

Be bold in the claiming of the Gospel for the whole creation.

Be brave in the lifting up of the life of God in every place.

Be firm in carrying the holy name of Jesus Christ into the palaces of worldly power.

Be gentle in the understanding of ourselves and others.

And may the songs of the Creator sound with love in all the earth,

The tenderness of Christ Jesus cover the wounds of the people,

And the truth in the Holy Spirit rise free in every age. Amen.

Dorothy McRae-McMahon, *Prayers for Life's Particular Moments* (London: SPCK, 2001), p.95