

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

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4182893102> Meeting ID: 418 289 3102

To call in to Zoom worship: Dial by your location +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Worship will also be connected through Facebook Live

COF Worship, July 12, 2020, 10:30 am

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship and Prayer of Approach

L: Let us seek the Lord while the Lord may be found

P: Let us call on the Lord while the Lord is near.

L: May everyone return to the Lord that the Lord may have mercy on all of us

P: For God abundantly pardons all who come near.



Let us pray:

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your Word. By your Holy Spirit, help us to receive it with joy, and live according to it, that we may grow in faith and hope and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever; and who taught us to pray together: *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.362-3). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Song: *Thy Word*

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path (2x)

When I feel afraid, and I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me

Nothing will I fear, as long as you are near, please be near me to the end.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (2x)

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:

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our redeemer.

(moment of silence.) Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 58). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Assurance of Pardon

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 *Awesome God (refrain only)*

*Our God is an awesome God, who reigns from heaven above
With wisdom, power and love our God is an awesome God. (2x)*

*Our God is an awesome God,
our God is an awesome God,
our God is an awesome God.*

Passing of the Peace

L: As God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another: the peace of Christ be with you all.

P: And also with you. *You may share the sign of peace with one another through text messaging and through the chat function at the bottom of your screen.*

Special Music

It is Well with My Soul

Dawn Farwick and Johanna Willis

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 Isaiah 55:6-13 ⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the

eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Hymn *We Plow the Fields and Scatter*

*We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,
But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand;
God sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain
The breezes and the sunshine, and soft, refreshing rain.*

*You only are the maker of all things near and far,
You paint the wayside flower, you light the evening star;
The winds and waves obey you, by you the birds are fed;
Much more to us your children, you give our daily bread.*

*We thank you then Creator, for all things bright and good,
The seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food;
Accept us as we offer ourselves to do our part,
And what you would most welcome, our humble, thankful hearts.*

Scripture Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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 Prayer *Thank you to all who continue to give!*

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

L: Lord God, there is no one like you in heaven above or on the earth below. Hear our prayer. Only say the word, Lord,

P: and all shall be well.

L: For your Church in every place, make us servants of Christ and witnesses to the gospel. Only say the word, Lord,

P: and all shall be well.

L: For leaders and people in every land, that they may know your way and do your will. Only say the word, Lord,

P: and all shall be well.

L: For an end to oppression and exploitation, that all your children may be free. Only say the word, Lord,

P: and all shall be well.

L: For the earth that you have made, that it may flourish in beauty and show your glory. Only say the word, Lord,

P: and all shall be well.

L: For those who are ill and close to death, draw near to them with life-giving power. Only say the word, Lord,

P: and all shall be well.

L: For all who we name from our own fellowship... only say the word, Lord.

P: And all shall be well.

(moment of silence.)

L: Receive all these prayers in the tenderness of your mighty hand and keep us forever in the safety of your outstretched arm; through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 110-111). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Song: *The Trees of the Field*

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace

The mountains and the hills will break forth before you;

They'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field will clap will clap their hands. (clap clap!)

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap clap!)

The trees of the field will clap their hands (clap clap!)

The trees off the field will clap their hands (clap clap!)

As you go out with joy!

Charge and Benediction