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Worship will also be connected through Facebook Live

COF Worship, July 26, 2020, 10:30 am



Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship and Prayer of Approach

L: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth!

P: Worship the Lord with gladness, come into God's presence with singing!

L: Let us worship God with our whole hearts

P: Let us give glory to God who created us and loves us.

Let us pray: **In these times, Lord, we need to feel your presence among us and within us. It is you who draws us together as a people; it is you who bring us together to comfort, support and love one another. In this time we have together may we be present to each other and aware of your moving within this part of the body of Christ; the same Christ 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.362-3). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Song: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee,

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,

Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,

Who wert, and art, and ever more shall be!

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,

Through the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,

Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee

Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name I earth and sky and sea;

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed trinity!

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

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

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

Doxology
Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God all creatures here below!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host!
Praise father, son and holy ghost!
Amen!

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

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 8:26-39 ²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor 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.

Hymn Come and Find the Quiet Center

*Come and find the quiet center in they crowded life we lead
Find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see
All the things that really matter, be at peace and simply be.*

*Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base.
Making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
Raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.*

*In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,
Let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain;
There's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a space for heart to care,
In the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare.*

Scripture Matthew 13:31-35, 44-52 ³¹He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." ³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." ³⁴Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing. ³⁵This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: "I will open my mouth to speak in parables; I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he

had and bought it. ⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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!*

We give thanks to you, O Lord our God, each one of us with our whole heart, and also with the whole heart of this community of faith. For the gifts you have given to us we will glorify your name forever. Accept our offering today, of heart, of love, of time, talents and financial resources and lead us to use them with care and boldness, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People (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: *Bind us Together*

*Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that can never be broken
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord, Bind us together in love.*

*There is only one God, there is only one king.
There is only one body, that is why we sing.*

*Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that can never be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord, bind us together in love.*

Charge and Benediction