

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, August 16, 2020, 10:30 am



**Musical Call to Worship**     *Come Holy Spirit (Taize)*

**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:** Let us worship the Lord with gladness! Let us come into God's presence with singing!

Let us pray: It is our joy and privilege to be in your presence, good and loving God; for even though we know you are present everywhere, when we are gathered we feel you even more closely. We see you in the faces of our friends and loved ones; we hear you in voices that pray and sing together. May we always find you when we gather, even as we gather in this remote way. And now, gracious God, hear us also as we pray together the prayer Christ taught: *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. 18, p.363). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

**Song:** *Come and Find the Quiet Center*

*Come and find the quiet center in the 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 time for heart to care,  
In the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare.*

**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**

**Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Do not cast us away from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.**

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (pp. 59-60). 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** *Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)*  
*Glory be to the father, and to the son and to the holy ghost*  
*As it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be*  
*World without end, amen, amen!*

### **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 Matthew 15:10- 20** <sup>10</sup>Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: <sup>11</sup>it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." <sup>12</sup>Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" <sup>13</sup>He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. <sup>14</sup>Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." <sup>15</sup>But Peter said to him, "Explain this

parable to us.”<sup>16</sup> Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? <sup>17</sup>Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? <sup>18</sup>But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. <sup>19</sup>For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. <sup>20</sup>These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

**Hymn** *Help Us Accept Each Other ( Music: “The Church’s One Foundation)*

*Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;  
Teach us as siblings always, each person to embrace.  
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe  
We are ourselves accepted and meant to live and love.*

*Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life  
We struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.  
Teach us to care for people, for all not just for some,  
To love them as we find them or as they may become.*

*Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved  
In living situations to do the truth in love;  
To practice your acceptance until we know by heart  
The table of forgiveness and laughter’s healing art.*

*Lord, for today’s encounters with all who are in need,  
Who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread,  
We need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on:  
Renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!*

**Scripture Matthew 15:21-28** <sup>21</sup>Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” <sup>23</sup>But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” <sup>24</sup>He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” <sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” <sup>26</sup>He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>27</sup>She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” <sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

**Sermon**

**Affirmation of Faith** *From “A Brief Statement of Faith” PC(USA)*

**In life and in death we belong to 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.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.**

**In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and**

peace.

**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 can separate us from God in Christ Jesus our Lord.** *Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 86-88). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.*

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

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

*Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 25). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.*

## **Joys and Concerns**

### **Prayers of the People**

**Song:** *Christ Beside Me*

*Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, king of my heart;  
Christ within me, Christ below me, Christ above me, never to part.*

*Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all around me, shield in the strife;  
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my waking, Christ in my rising, light of my life.*

*Repeat both verses*

## **Charge and Benediction**