

Toll free call in number! (844) 855-4444, access code 654132# (conference call only)  
Worship will also be connected through Facebook Live



**COF Worship**

**June 13, 2021 11:15 am**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Gathering and Praise**

**Prelude/ Centering Music**

**Call to Worship**

L: The kingdom of God is like a tiny mustard seed;

**P: It grows into a great plant with many branches.**

L: O praise the Lord with me,

**P: Let us exalt God's name together.**

Let us pray: **God of power and might, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life, and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil, in the strength of the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (pp. 54, 362). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

**Hymn** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (263)*

**Call to Repentance**

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence.

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 20). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

**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.

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

L: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! Friends, know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

**P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p.355). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

**Response of Praise** *Spirit of the Living God*

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

*Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me, Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

## Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Anthem

### Hearing the Word

#### Prayer for Illumination

**Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p.68). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition

**First Reading Ezekiel 17:22-24** <sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. <sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. <sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

**Hymn** *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem (308)*

**Gospel Reading Mark 4:26-34** <sup>26</sup>He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup>and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

<sup>30</sup>He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

## Sermon

**Affirmation of Faith** *from "A Brief Statement of Faith" PCUSA.*

**L:** 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.

**P: We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**L:** 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!"

**P: 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.**

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 86-88). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

## Offering prayer

L: The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it,

**P: The world, and those who live in it.**

L: With gratitude and generosity, let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.

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

## Song of Response *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

*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.*

## Joys and Concerns

### Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Lord God, there is no one like you in heaven above or on the earth below. Hear our prayer. Only say the word, Lord, **and all shall be well.**

For your Church in every place, make us servants of Christ and witnesses to the gospel. Only say the word, Lord, **and all shall be well.**

For leaders and people in every land, that they may know your way and do your will. Only say the word, Lord, **and all shall be well.**

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

For the earth that you have made, that it may flourish in beauty and show your glory. Only say the word, Lord, **and all shall be well.**

**For those who are ill and close to death, draw near to them with life-giving power. Only say the word, Lord, and all shall be well.**

**(moment of silence)**

Receive all these prayers in the tenderness of your mighty hand; even as we lift the prayer Jesus teaches: ***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.110) Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition. Adapted.

## Going to Serve

**Hymn** *The Trees of the Field* (STF 2279)

### Charge and Benediction

Music License: One License A-732604

## Hymns

### **Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible, hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.*

*To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish like leaves on a tree, then wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.*

*Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light, thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
All praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hidest thee.*

### **O Sing a Song of Bethlehem**

*O sing a song of Bethlehem, of shepherds watching there,  
And of the news that came to them from angels in the air.  
The light that shone on Bethlehem fills all the world today  
Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth the angels sing always.*

*O sing a song of Nazareth, of sunny days of joy,  
O sing of fragrant flower's breath, and of the sinless boy.  
For now the flowers of Nazareth in every heart may grow;  
Now spreads the fame of his dear name on all the winds that blow.*

*O sing a song of Galilee, of lakes and woods and hill,  
Of him who walked upon the sea and bade its waves be still.  
For though like waves on Galilee, dark seas of trouble roll,  
When faith has heard the master's word, falls peace upon the soul.*

*O sing a song of Calvary, its glory and dismay;  
Of him who hung upon the tree, and took our sins away.  
For he who died on Calvary is risen from the grave,  
And Christ our Lord, by heaven adored, is mighty now to save.*

### **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;  
There'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 of the field will clap their hands (clap clap!)  
As you go out in joy!*