



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

Worship will also be connected through Facebook Live

Worship, May 15, 2022, 11:15 am

+Stand as you are able

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements
Lighting of the Christ Candle
Centering Music

+Call to Worship

L: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

P: Praise God, all angels; praise God, all the heavenly host!

L: Praise God, sun and moon and all you shining stars!

P: Praise God, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

All: Everything that is, praise the name of the Lord!

Let us pray: **Creator of the universe, you made the world in beauty, and restore all things in glory through the victory of Jesus Christ. We pray that, wherever your image is still disfigured by poverty, sickness, selfishness, war and greed, the new creation in Jesus Christ may appear in justice, love, and peace, to the glory of your name; for we pray, as Jesus Christ our Lord, taught us to pray, saying: *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.***

Lectionary.library.Vanderbilt.edu

+Song: *Creator of Mountains (2061)*

Call to Confession

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; yet we are justified by the gift of God's grace through the redemption that is ours in Christ Jesus. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

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.

(Moment of silent prayer)

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (pp. 20-21). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Assurance of Pardon

Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith. Beloved people of God, believe the good news: through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

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

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 62). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Response of Praise *Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks (refrain only)*

Sharing of the Peace

Special Music *Trevor Gutu, bass*

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. Amid all the changing words of our generation, speak your eternal word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives; through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 69). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

First Reading Revelation 21:1-6. 1Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; 4he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." 5And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Hymn *O Day of God, Draw Nigh (452)*

Gospel Reading John 13:31-35 31When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' 34I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Sermon

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

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. 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. 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 in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Offering Prayer

In response to God's goodness, let us give thanks to God. Let us pray:

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; through the one who is the light of the world. Amen.

Response of Praise *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (593)*

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, amen, amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People ○

Sisters and brothers in Christ, God invites us to bring our doubts and fears, our joys and concerns, our petitions and praise, and offer them for the earth and all its creatures.

Prayers of the People, concluding with:

Receive these prayers, O God, and transform us through them, that we may have eyes to see and hearts to understand not only what you do on our behalf, but what you call us to do so that your realm will come to fruition in glory. Amen.

Taking the Word into the World

+Song *We Give Thee but Thine Own (428)*

+Charge Live a life worthy of your calling, giving glory to God in all things.

+Benediction

Creator of Mountains

Creator of mountains, of glaciers and streams, great splashes of fountains and dreamers of dreams.
We gather in wonder and praise for your grace, responding, we ponder our work in this place.

Creator of peoples and races and tribes, not bound by church steeples or what myth describes.
We celebrate now our diversity here, in penitence vow to accept and not fear.

Created for caring for all human need, we seek to be daring in thought and in deed.
Turn us from all strife that demeans or divides, reform us for life that empowers and abides.

Creator of river and forest and snow, Eternal Life giver whose presence we know,
Your voice is resounding in storm, wind and wave. Your love is abounding, embracing to save.

Great God, now we come, our hearts grateful for days when faith, like a drumbeat, keeps steady our
praise.
In song and rejoicing hopes stir and arise, our spirits now voicing their hymns to the skies

O Day of God, Draw Nigh

O day of God, draw nigh in beauty and in power,
Come with your timeless judgment now to match our present hour.

Bring to our troubled minds, uncertain and afraid,
The quiet of a steadfast faith, calm of a call obeyed.

Bring justice to our land, that all may dwell secure,
And finely build for days to come foundations that endure.

Bring to our world of strife your sovereign word of peace,
That war may haunt the earth no more and desolation cease.

O day of God, draw nigh as at creation's birth;
Let there be light again, and set your judgements in the earth.

We Give Thee but Thy Own

Wee give thee but thine own, whatever the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, in thee.

May we thy bounties thus, as stewards true receive, and gladly,
as thou blessest us, to thee our first fruits give.

To comfort and to bless, to find a balm for woe,
to tend the lonely in distress, is angels' work below.

The captive to release, to God the lost to bring,
to teach the way of life and peace— it is a Christlike thing.

And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be;
whate'er for thine we do O Lord, we do it unto thee.

COMMUNITY OF FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 15, 2022

Pastor:
Rev. Sharon Carter
865-385-5003

Choir Director:
Yeon-Kyung Kim

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Scriptures for Sunday, May 22

Acts 16:9–15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5
John 14:23–29 or
John 5:1–9

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Betty Murphy
Ruth Roeber
The McDermott family
Johanna Willis
Nita Kleier
Jean Jennings' family
Emille Walden
Kelly Montana
Lynda Jaeger
Kittie Dupps
Skip Dixon & Family
Ron Carlin
Ella Grace Marksberry

Upcoming Worship Services:

Join us for in person services at our new location at 710 Western Reserve Rd., Crescent Springs, KY. You can also worship with us online via Facebook Live, or by joining the conference call. Worship services begin at 11:15 am.

Liturgist Sign-Up:

Liturgists are needed for the upcoming months. There is a sign-up sheet on the entry table by the front door. All are welcome to serve as liturgist!

Cornerstone Meals:

We'll be providing meals this month for Cornerstone on Monday, May 16 and Tuesday, May 17. Meet at the church on Monday, May 16 at 3 pm to begin preparing the meals. On Tuesday, May 17, we will meet again at the church to finish preparing the food before serving at Cornerstone at 5 pm.

Pentecost Offering:

The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people, and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. According to the PCUSA Special Offerings website, 40% stays with our congregation for youth-related projects, 25% supports Young Adult Volunteers, 25% supports worldwide ministries with youth, and 10% is devoted to children at-risk. We will collect offerings for this special mission from now until June 5, 2022.

Supporting the Work of the Presbytery & the Denomination with Per Capita:

Per Capita is a fundamental way in which all of us, as members of the nearly 10,000 congregations and mid councils of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) connect, participate and share in the work of the wider church. Per capita is the primary source of funding for the Presbytery, as well as the Synod and General Assembly, and is how Presbyterians mutually and equitably share the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit's leading for the future. It is how Presbyterians are trained to become better ruling elders, teaching elders and deacons, and ministers. It is how Presbyterians are helped to discern God's call in their lives. It has supported our ministries at COF through grants to CLASP and for equipment purchases for our virtual church services. Please prayerfully consider donating the \$33 per capital apportionment set by the Presbytery, for each church member.

Time and Talents:

Please be on the lookout for a "time and talents sheet" that will be coming soon. We're in need of counters, liturgists, Sunday School leaders, and COF/ CSPC Join Actions Team members, among other things.