

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 26, 2020

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather in God's Name . . .

PRELUDE

PRAYER OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

(for silent prayer during the prelude)

Eternal God, protector of all who put their trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Fill us with your mercy and your grace, that, with you to rule and guide, we may so use the good things of this present life that we do not neglect those of eternal worth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.ⁱ
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP (FROM PSALM 105)

One: O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,
All: **make known his deeds among the peoples.**
One: Sing to him, sing praises to him;
All: **tell of all his wonderful works.**
One: Glory in his holy name;
All: **let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.**
One: Remember the wonderful works he has done,
All: **his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered.**
Praise the Lord!

HYMN OF PRAISE: “Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord” #392

Take Thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray; Give us the mind of Christ each passing day; Teach us to know the truth that sets us free; Grant us in all our thoughts to honor Thee.
Take Thou our hearts, O Christ, they are Thine own; Come Thou within our souls and claim Thy throne; Help us to shed abroad Thy deathless love; Use us to make the earth like heaven above.
Take Thou our wills, Most High! Hold Thou full sway; Have in our inmost souls Thy perfect way; Guard Thou each sacred hour from selfish ease; Guide Thou our ordered lives as Thou dost

please.

Take Thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will; Through our surrendered souls Thy plans fulfill. We yield ourselves to Thee time, talents, all; We hear, and henceforth heed, Thy sovereign call.

*CALL TO CONFESSON (FROM ROMANS 8)

If God is for us, who is against us? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? Nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. With the assurance of God's protection, love, and forgiveness, let us come before God humbly in prayer.

*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSON

*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSON (IN UNISON)

Faithful God, your commitment to us is overwhelming. You promise nothing can ultimately prevail against those you have chosen, and no charge can stick to your elect. Despite your faithfulness, O God, we still struggle with sin and dishonor your faithfulness to us. We commit both sins of commission and omission. Grow our faithfulness to your covenant with us, O God, and forgive our sins as you continue to transform us. In the name of our Lord Jesus. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (FROM ROMANS 8)

Paul's words in Romans reassure us. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son. Those he predestined, he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. Continue to be conformed into the image of God's Son, and know that you are forgiven. Amen.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.
All: **And also with you.**

ANTHEM: “Here I Am, Lord” Susan Emrick

. . . to Proclaim God's Word

FIRST READING Genesis 29:15-28

p. 26

EPISTLE READING Romans 8:26-39

p. 158

***GOSPEL READING** Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

p. 14

SERMON “More Than Conquerors”

Rev. Andy Smothers

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*CONFESSON OF FAITH *Heidelberg Catechism* (Questions 16-19)

- One: Why must the mediator be a true and righteous human?
Many: **God's justice demands that human nature, which has sinned, must pay for sin; but a sinful human could never pay for others.**
One: Why must the mediator also be true God?
Many: **So that the mediator, by the power of his divinity, might bear the weight of God's wrath in his humanity and earn for us and restore to us righteousness and life.**
One: Then who is this mediator — true God and at the same time a true and righteous human?
Many: **Our Lord Jesus Christ, who was given to us to completely deliver us and make us right with God.**
One: How do you come to know this?
Many: **The holy gospel tells me. God began to reveal the gospel already in Paradise; later God proclaimed it by the holy patriarchs and prophets and foreshadowed it by the sacrifices and other ceremonies of the law; and finally God fulfilled it through his own beloved Son.**

. . . to Give Thanks to God . . .

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (IN UNISON)

Loving God, your scriptures testify to Jesus, whom you sent, who died, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, and who intercedes for us to God, the Father. Thank you that despite the unfaithfulness and sinfulness of humanity, you faithfully kept your covenant with us and found a way to

work to restore your creation to your good intentions. In thankfulness for the many blessings you provide, we offer these gifts of time, talent, and finances for the work of your church. Guide its leaders to invest it wisely for the purposes and in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

... and to Be Sent in God's Name.

CLOSING HYMN: "Thine Is the Glory" #122

Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son; Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won. Angels in bright raiment Rolled the
stone away, Kept the folded grave-clothes Where Thy body lay.
Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son; Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, Risen from the tomb; Lovingly He greets us,
Scatters fear and gloom. Let the church with gladness Hymns of
triumph sing, For the Lord now liveth; Death hath lost its sting.
Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son; Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.

No more we doubt Thee, Glorious Prince of life! Life is nought
without Thee; Aid us in our strife. Make us more than
conquerors Through Thy deathless love; Bring us safe through
Jordan To Thy home above. Thine is the glory, Risen,
conquering Son; Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast
won.

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

ⁱ Book of Common Worship, 364-365.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship this morning! As we continue to social distance, we will not be offering child care for a time. Feel free to keep your children in worship — even if they're a bit noisy. You're also welcome to take them into the coatroom. Weather permitting, we do hope to have coffee hour outside this morning.

Our thanks go to our lay reader & soloist Susan Emrick, and pianist Helen Elliott & Jan Carter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Please consider signing up to provide refreshments for our outdoor coffee hour this summer. A signup sheet will be on the table near the food after worship.

Come and join us on Wednesday Evenings for Evening Prayer at 7:30 PM. Several of us join Pastor Andy for scripture readings and reflections, liturgy, prayer, and fellowship.

The Second Presbyterian Ice Cream Social will be held on Wednesday, August 12th at 2:00 PM. In keeping with social distancing we will meet outside by the bell. Bring a lawn chair and your favorite ice cream topping. Come wearing a mask. Women, men and children are all welcome to come for fun and fellowship.

Summer Office Hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

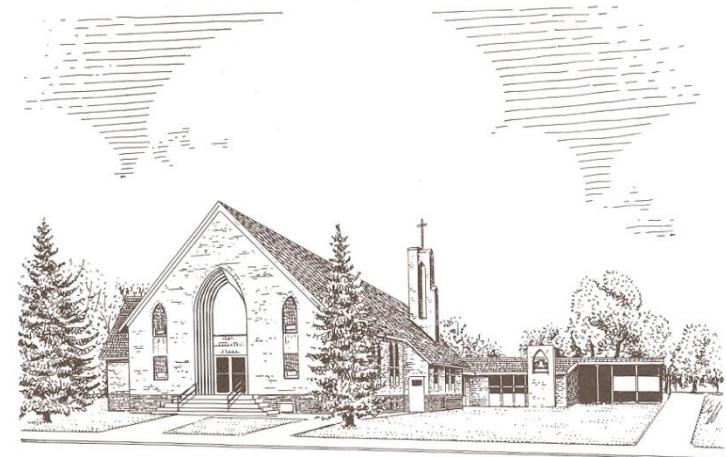
We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper on **Sunday, August 16th**.

Presbyterian Women Fall Retreat will be held at Glacier Camp August 14th -16th. Registration forms, schedule and guidelines for compliance can be picked up from the office. Deadline for registration is August 1st.

It is with sadness that we share that Nellie Sherman went to be with our Lord on June 29th. Helen Elliott would like to start a memorial in honor of her. If anyone would like to send their condolences, please send them to Nellie's daughter, Debbie Sheasby. Her address is 1203 Ave B NW Great Falls, MT 59404. Please keep her family in prayer during this time.

Last week, combined giving was **\$3,946.00**. In order to meet expenses, we need to average **\$2,588.00** per week.

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