



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

September 10, 2017, 8:15 a.m.

Trinity Season



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please prepare your heart for worship
and silence your mobile devices.*

We believe that eternal, abundant life is found only in knowing the one, eternal God and Jesus Christ whom He sent (John 17:3). Therefore, one of the purposes of corporate worship is to lead us into a greater apprehension of who God is. We sing, pray, read, and study about His character, nature, and ways. This process results in increasing our peace of conscience and giving us a greater measure of the joy of our own salvation.

It is our privilege to welcome to the pulpit today our new Senior Minister, George Robertson. His sermon text (Exodus 34:6-7) is one of the fundamental creeds of our Old Testament. It is one of the sweetest sermons ever preached because it is preached by God Himself. Thomas Goodwin calls it "the highest subject, the richest text, and the most renowned description of the nature of God: "The Lord God, merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in loving kindness."

Richard Baxter claims: "If you conceive of God as ten thousand times more gracious and loving than any friend you have in the world, it will make you love him above all. This knowledge takes away weariness in duty and gives more light in prayer and meditation. When God becomes more lovely in our eyes, it produces growth in all of our graces and encourages greater confidence in the Lord." Let us pray that the Lord would unveil His beauties to our sight and that this revelation would result in us loving Him more!

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" Fred Bock
Samuel Metzger, organ

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Hal Hopson
Greg Luscombe, trombone; Samuel Metzger, piano

CHORAL INTROIT: "Holy, Holy, Holy" Schubert

Holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord.
Holy is the Father, holy is the Son.
Holy is the Spirit; blessed Three in One.

The Chancel Choir · Christy Young, Director

SCRIPTURAL CALL TO WORSHIPD. Todd Erickson

♠HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 310 "Rejoice, the Lord Is King" DARWALL
stanzas 1-4

♠NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Philippians 2:5-11Shelley Hill

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,

**who, though he was in the form of God,
did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,**

but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant,
being born in the likeness of men.

**And being found in human form,
he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.**

Therefore God has highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,

**so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE DARWALL

**Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come,
And take His servants up to their eternal home.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice! Amen.**

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

✦ GREETINGS

PRAYER FOR THE 2017-18 FELLOWS Dan G. Burns

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN W. Brian Lewis

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "O Clap Your Hands" Ralph Vaughan Williams

O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.
For the Lord most high is terrible; He is a great King over all the earth.

God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises to God, sing praises, sing praises,
Sing praises unto our King. Sing praises, sing praises, sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth; sing ye praises, everyone that hath understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen, God sitteth upon the throne of His holiness.
Sing praises unto our King. Sing praises, sing praises, sing praises, sing praises.

✦ DOXOLOGY OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 34:6-7
(page 74 in the pew Bible)

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field;

**The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the Word of our God will stand forever. Amen.** *(Isaiah 40:6b, 8)*

HOMILY *The Essence of God* Dr. George W. Robertson

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

✦ INVITATION TO THE TABLE

All those who have publicly professed their faith and joined a Christian church as a communing member are warmly welcomed to receive communion today. Non-communing worshipers are encouraged to contemplate the love of Jesus Christ during this time. At Second Presbyterian, we encourage our children not to take communion until they have joined the church as communicant members.

We do, however, encourage non-communing children to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. Those wishing to be served communion together as a group or family, please stand together in front of the two serving elders before taking the elements.

Gluten-free communion bread is available upon request from the elder at the east side of the transverse aisle (opposite from the door leading to the Connector).

✦PROFESSION OF FAITH The 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.**

✦GLORIA PATRI GREATOREX

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen!**

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, our heavenly Father,
none of us can stand in the blazing light of Your glory
to our everlasting comfort except those who are protected
and covered by the rock of our salvation, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Yet we confess that we have sought security in other people.
We have built on other foundations.
We have filled our hungry hearts with the husks of this world
and have rested in other comforts.
Forgive us for doubting Your compassion and grace.
So transform us that we fully entrust ourselves to Jesus,
in whose mighty and merciful name we pray. Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND THE 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.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

For those unable to come forward, please raise your hand and an elder will serve you in your seat. Throughout this time of communion, we invite you to join in singing the hymns below.

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus” Keith and Kristyn Getty

**Beneath the cross of Jesus I find a place to stand,
And wonder at such mercy that calls me as I am;
For hands that should discard me hold wounds which tell me, “Come.”
Beneath the cross of Jesus my unworthy soul is won.**

**Beneath the cross of Jesus His family is my own—
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams, now one through grace alone.
How could I now dishonor the ones that You have loved?
Beneath the cross of Jesus see the children called by God.**

**Beneath the cross of Jesus— the path before the crown—
We follow in His footsteps where promised hope is found.
How great the joy before us to be His perfect bride;
Beneath the cross of Jesus we will gladly live our lives.**

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me” NEW CITY FELLOWSHIP

**Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.**

**Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law’s demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.**

**Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress; helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the Fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.**

**While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.**

“Amazing Grace!” AMAZING GRACE

**Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.**

**‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!**

**Thro’ many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
‘Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.**

**And when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil a life of joy and peace.**

**When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’ve first begun.**

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” HAMBURG

**When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.**

**See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down:
Did e’er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✦HYMN OF COMMITMENTHAMBURG

**Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.**

✦BENEDICTION

✦CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: “Toccata” from Symphony No. 5 Charles-Marie Widor

✦Indicates congregation standing

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