

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1817

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Building Community ▪ Transforming Lives ▪ Engaging the World

Trusting that God's grace embraces and makes a covenant with all believers, First Presbyterian Church intends to be an inclusive place of spiritual growth for all people. All persons are welcomed into this fellowship and membership regardless of age, sexual orientation, gender, ethnic or racial identity, economic or educational status, or political affiliation.

Order of Worship

10 October 2021

20th Sunday After Pentecost

Prayer of Preparation

*Listening God, hear your church today
as we bring our joys and our concerns,
our thanksgivings and our demands.*

*Fill us with the assurance
that you truly hear our words and thoughts,
our songs and our tears.*

*In the name of the one who always shows us the way,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Welcome

Chiming of the Trinity

Introit

Take My Life

Havergal/Malan

Call to Worship

Psalm 22

God, you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

**In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted you, and you delivered them.**

To you, they cried, and they were saved;
in you, they trusted and were not put to shame.

God, you are holy.

All praise to you, now and forever!

Anthem

If God Be For Us

McCormick

Confession

God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow. We know the commandments: You shall not murder; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness; you shall not defraud; honor your father and your mother.

We are sure we follow them, but instead, we cannot let go of the things we think we need or what we think is important.

We do not follow you or love you, O God, with all our hearts, our minds, our strength. We refrain from giving our whole selves to you. Forgive our disobedience, our lack of commitment, and our desire to focus on material things instead of on your will for us.

In the name of our Teacher, Jesus Christ, who gave his whole life for the sake of the gospel. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Summary of the Law

Matthew 22:37-39

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and the first commandment. And a second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Prayer for Illumination

Lesson

Mark 10:17-31

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight

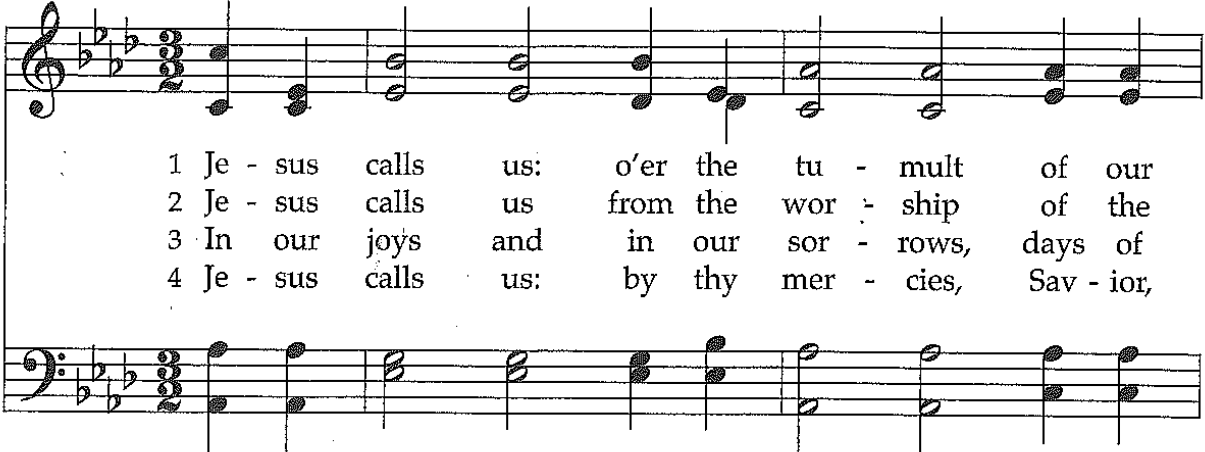
Affirmation of Faith

from a Declaration of Faith, 1977

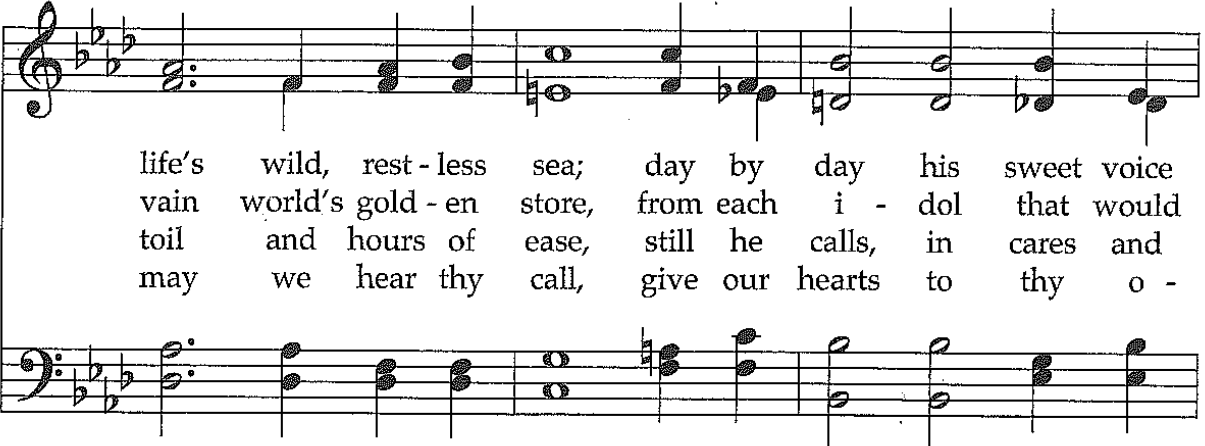
Christ calls us to live in the presence of God. Jesus lived with a constant sense of his Father's presence. He put God's claim on his life above all else. He joined others in God's worship and praise. He drew strength from the Scriptures. He prayed and taught his disciples to pray.

We believe Christ gives us and demands of us personal lives that are centered in God and open to God's reality and rule. Christ teaches us to put obedience to God above the interests of self, family, race, or nation; to offer God joyously our money, ability, and time. It is part of our discipline to observe a day of worship and rest, setting aside our own working to enjoy God's work, celebrating with sisters and brothers the Lord's goodness. We need constantly to search out God's way in Scripture, not expecting detailed directions for every decision, but relying on the Word to tell us who God is, to press God's present claim on us, and to assure us of God's grace and comfort.

We are charged to pray for ourselves and others with gratitude, boldness, and persistence, confident that God hears and answers our prayers in ways best for us all. Life in God's presence issues in life for others, for if we do not love sisters and brothers whom we see, we cannot love God whom we do not see.



1 Je - sus calls us: o'er the tu - mult of our
 2 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
 3 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
 4 Je - sus calls us: by thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his sweet voice
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
 may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thy o -



sound - eth say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."
 keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
 be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Organist: Vance Harper Jones

Ensemble: Betsy Conzelman, Margaret Cooper, Beth Foley, Charles Francis, Bill Harris, Sue Jones, Susan Mabie, Carol Taylor, Pat K. Rowlett

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