

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

24 October 2021

22nd Sunday After Pentecost

Prayer of Preparation

*God of power and mercy,
you gather your people with the love of a parent for a child.
You hear our cries in the night and in the day;
you answer with healing and hope.
Gather us into your strength and feed us with your wisdom,
in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
one God, Mother of us all. Amen.*

Welcome

Chiming of the Trinity

Introit

Jesus Thy Boundless Love to Me

Gerhardt/Hemy

Call to Worship

from Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dreamed.
Then our mouths were filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
Then it was said among the nations,
“The Lord has done great things for them.”
The Lord has done great things for us.
Let us rejoice and give thanks! Let us worship God!

Anthem

We Walk By Faith

Alfred/Kosche

Confession

God of perfect love, you continually bring forth life, transforming sadness to joy, and despair to hope. We are weak, but you are strong. Our ways are flawed, but your ways are true. We are seldom right, but you are never wrong. Forgive us, redeem us, transform us. Take away the sin that burdens us and restore us to the people you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. 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 10:46-52

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

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight

Affirmation of Faith

From a Brief Statement of Faith

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. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. 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. Amen.

Hymn 450

Be Thou My Vision

Irish/Evans

Capo 1: (D) E^b (G) A^b (D/F#) E^b/G (A7) B^b7 (D) E^b

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) B^b (D) E^b (G) A^b (A) B^b

naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) A^b (D) E^b (F#m7) Gm7 (G) A^b (A) B^b

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) Cm (D/F#) E^b/G (G) A^b (D) E^b

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er 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, Michael Murrie, Pat K. Rowlett, Carol Taylor, David Taylor

Today's prayers and liturgy written by John Wurster, pastor of St. Philip Presbyterian Church in Houston and provided for free distribution. © Presbyterian Outlook, 2021.

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