

THE SERVICE of Worship

July 19, 2020
Ordinary Time
10:30 A.M.



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON
established 1870

Responding to God's love and grace, we WORSHIP with joy, NURTURE with faith, and SERVE others with love.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Improvisation on "Blessed Assurance"
Edwin Walker, Pianist

Robert Thygerson

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP | *Responsively*

God who gathers us together across miles and distance,

weave us into holy community as we sing, pray, and give thanks.

God who enlivens the stories of scripture,

bring the words of our ancestors to life and help us hear them anew.

God who opened Lydia's heart to the good news,

open our hearts and let us greet this day with hospitality and wonder.

GATHERING HYMN | "O Day of Rest and Gladness"

Glory to God 393

1. O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light,
O balm for care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright;
on you, the high and lowly, through ages joined in tune,
sing "Holy, Holy, Holy" to the great God triune.

2. On you, at earth's creation the light first had its birth;
on you, for our salvation Christ rose from depths of earth;
on you, our Lord victorious sent Spirit forth from heaven.
And thus, on you most glorious, a triple light was given.

3. On you, God's people meeting, the Holy Scriptures hear,
Christ's living presence greeting, through bread and wine made near.
New graces ever gaining from this our day of rest,
we reach the rest remaining to spirits of the blest.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION | *Unison*

God of invitation,

**in this season in which we are redefining how to share life together,
keep us mindful of invitation and welcome.**

**We are inclined to commune with those who live near us, look like us,
and vote like us, creating echo chambers rather than reaching out to outsiders
and strangers.**

**Remind us of your incredible hospitality,
and help us to create relationships that help us to grow in love,
knowledge and acceptance. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS | *Responsively*

The grace of God opens our hearts, renews our spirits, and gives us peace.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and made whole.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Pastor Rosy and Pastor Jessie

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 16: 11-15, 40

SERMON

Rev. Rosy Robson

HYMN OF FAITH | “Faith Begins by Letting Go”

Glory to God 684

1. Faith begins by letting go, giving up what had seemed sure, taking risks and pressing on, though the way seems less secure: pilgrimage both right and odd, trusting all our life to God.
2. Faith endures by holding on, keeping memory’s roots alive so that hope may bear its fruit; promise-fed, our souls will thrive, not through merit we possess but by God’s great faithfulness.
3. Faith matures by reaching out, stretching minds, enlarging hearts, sharing struggles, living prayer, binding up the broken parts; till we find the commonplace ripe with witness to God’s grace.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *Unison*

From *The Declaration of Faith*

**We believe God sends us to risk our own peace and comfort in compassion for our neighbors.
We are to give to them and receive from them,
accepting everyone we meet as a person;
to be sensitive to those who suffer in body or mind;
to help and accept help in ways that affirm dignity and responsibility.
We must not limit our compassion to those we judge deserving,
for we ourselves do not deserve the compassion of God.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER | *Unison*

**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**

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Lamb Of God, What Wondrous Love”
Laruen Carter, Soloist

Based on “Pavane” by Faure
Arr. Allan Petker

BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“God of Grace and God of Glory”
Edwin Walker, Organist

Arr. Hal Hopson

