

THE SERVICE of Worship

August 23, 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

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”

Brenda Swindle, Handbells

Edwin Walker, Piano

For reflection please see Glory to God 396

HOLY MANNA

W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

Arr. by Cathy Moglebust ASCAP

and David Moglebust

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 brought Eutychus back to life,

give us the gift of new life, and awaken us to the hope of resurrection.

HYMN OF CHRIST'S REIGN | “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!”

Glory to God 258

1. A hymn of glory let us sing! New songs throughout the world shall ring!
Christ, by a road before untrod, ascends unto the throne of God.
2. The holy apostolic band upon the Mount of Olives stand,
and with his followers they see their Lord ascend in majesty.
3. To all, the shining angels cry, “Why stand and gaze upon the sky?
This is the Savior!” thus they say; “This is his glorious triumph day.”
4. “You see him now, ascending high up to the portals of the sky.
Hereafter you shall Jesus see returning in great majesty.”
5. O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord.
You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION | *Unison*

**All-knowing God, we come to confession to tell the truth about ourselves,
so here is the truth: we are imperfect.**

We make mistakes every day. We say things we don't mean,

and we do things that hurt other people. We hold grudges and get angry.

We are unkind to ourselves. We want to show grace but we don't know how.

We need forgiveness, so forgive us, all-merciful God.

Hear our confession and meet us in our imperfection,

that we might move forward as forgiven people. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS | *Responsively*

New life interrupts. Forgiveness comes when we least expect it. God's grace is freely given.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, freed, and made new.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Pastor Jessie

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 20: 7-12

SERMON

Rev. Jessie Light-Wells

HYMN OF FORGIVENESS | “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

Glory to God 435

1. There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth’s failings have such kindly judgement given.

2. For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God’s Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *Unison*

**God’s sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind.
We ascribe to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness.
But God reveals God’s love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the
form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross,
and goodness in receiving sinful people.
The power of God’s love in Christ to transform the world discloses
that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things
to serve the purpose of love.**

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

“The Gift of Love” English Melody Adapted by Hal Hopson
Lynn Duhon and Brenda Swindle, Handbells Arr. by Barbara Broome
Edwin Walker, Piano
For reflection please see Glory to God 693

BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“The Gift of Love”
Edwin Walker, Organ

Arr. by John Leavitt

