



“If you have
judged me
to be faithful
to the Lord,
come and
stay at my
home.”

Acts 16:15, NRSV

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**First
Presbyterian
Church**

Henderson, Texas

“Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences”

Service for the Lord's Day

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 26, 2019

The leaves of the tree of life are for the healing of the nations.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

God of endless wonder, spark our imaginations that we may find our energy renewed for bringing your love into the lives of our neighbors. Amen

Gathering

PRELUDE

Selected

WELCOME

Rev. Michele R. Goff

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Lynn Tieken

INTROIT

“Prayer of Peace”
(Chancel Choir)

***CALL TO WORSHIP - Responsive**

Liturgist - John Hillin

May God be gracious to us and bless us, and make God's face to shine upon us, that God's way may be known upon earth, God's saving power among all nations.

Let all the people praise God; let all the people sing praise!

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for God judges the peoples with equity and guides the nations upon earth.

Let the people praise God; let all the people sing praise!

***HYMN #624**

“I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art”

Strasbourg, 1545

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you, that, loving you above all else, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. ***Amen.***

CONFESSION

The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin first in silence, then together.

SILENT REFLECTION

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, hear our prayers. We want to be generous like your servant Lydia, but we fear that we will not have enough. We want to be transformed like your servant Paul, but we worry that we are beyond your grace. We want to be loving like our savior Jesus, but we wonder whether we are good enough for your call. God of mercy, forgive our sins. God of mercy, hear our prayers.

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

*“Lord, have mercy upon us,
Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.”*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news of God’s promise: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

***GLORIA PATRI**

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.

Word

ANTHEM

*“Gift of Love”
(Chancel Choir)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

Acts 16:9-15

Bibles,p.127/LG.p.165

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

Bibles,p.244/LG.p.315

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN #79

“Light Dawns on a Weary World”

Bringle, 2001

GOSPEL SCRIPTURE

John 5:1-9

Bibles, p.90/ LG. p.117

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Michele R. Goff

ASCRPTION OF PRAISE

All authority and power and dominion to the name that is above all names— Jesus Christ our Lord— now and in the age to come. *Amen.*

Response

***HYMN #623** *“I’ve Got Peace like a River”* African American spiritual

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - Unison

The Affirmation of Faith is adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.22

New life in Christ takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God’s grace. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - Responsive

Our response this morning is: *receive our prayer.*

THE LORD’S PRAYER - Unison

Let us pray the Lord’s Prayer together:

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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Selected

DOXOLOGY** ***NEW LANGUAGE, SAME TUNE FOR THE EASTER SEASON

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION - Unison

Eternal God, take and use these gifts for your purpose in the world— giving food to the hungry, hope to the despairing, and new life to the dead. Teach us to live each day for you, so that future generations will know your goodness and praise your glory; in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending

***HYMN #733** *“We All Are One in Mission”* Edwards, 1985

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

May the love of the holy triune God—
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—
abide with you forever.
Alleluia!

Now go forth in Jesus’ name,
remembering his new commandment
to love one another,
just as he has loved us.
Amen.

***RESPONSE #243** *“Be Not Afraid”* Berthier, 1998

POSTLUDE

Selected

(*) Those who are able may stand.
Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.