

First Presbyterian Church

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CHRIST
has set us
FREE

Galatians 5:1, NRSV



**First
Presbyterian
Church**

Henderson, Texas

“Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences”

Service for the Lord's Day

Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 30, 2019

For freedom Christ has set us free. Now we live by the Spirit of God.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

God of Freedom, Thank you for making me part of The Story. Amen.

Gathering

PRELUDE

Selected

WELCOME

Rev. Michele R. Goff

*INTROIT #175

“Seek Ye First”

Lafferty, 1971

*OPENING SENTENCES - Responsive

Liturgist - Tom Laney

Then God said, let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.

And I appointed you to go and bear fruit: fruit that will last.

In the same way, my friends, you have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead in order that we may bear fruit for God.

And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

The ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.

For the tree is known by its fruit.

Let us worship the God of abundance.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN #388

“Come All You People”

Gondo, 20th cent.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, light of the minds that know you, life of the souls that love you, strength of the thoughts that seek you: Help us so to know you that we may truly love you, so to love you that we may fully serve you, whose service is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

CONFESSION

It is only by the power of God that we are able to stand against evil. Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sin first in silence, then responsively together.

SILENT REFLECTION

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you call us to bear with one another in love.

Forgive us when we cannot love our neighbors. Forgive us when we cannot love ourselves.

You call us to bear fruits of humility, gentleness, and patience.

Forgive us when we choose self-doubt over humility, quietness over gentleness, or resignation over patience.

Hear our prayers, God of grace,

and draw us into the unity of your Spirit.

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Now stand firm in your faith, covered by the saving grace of God and ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

***GLORIA PATRI**

#580

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

*“Make My Life an Alleluia”
(Chancel Choir)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE 2 Kings 2:1-2; 6-14

Bibles,p.317/LG.p.412

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Galatians 5:1; 13-25

Bibles,p.179/LG.p.232

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN #720

“Jesus Calls Us”

Alexander, 1852

GOSPEL SCRIPTURE

Luke 9:51-62

Bibles, p.66/ LG. p.85

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Michele R. Goff

ASCRPTION OF PRAISE

To the Lord our God, Alpha and Omega, be all glory and honor forever. *Amen.*

Response

***HYMN #718**

“Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”

Everest, 1833

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - UNISON**

The Affirmation of Faith is adapted from the Confession of 1967 (9.32-33)

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God’s judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church’s own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God’s renewal of human life in society and of God’s victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - Responsive

Our response this morning is: *have mercy on us.*

LORD’S PRAYER

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Selected

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Hold Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

Generous God, we give you thanks for all your blessings to us. Use these gifts we offer as a sign of your great love for the world, so that all may know and share the abundance of your grace; in your holy name we pray. Amen.

Sending

***HYMN #724**

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

Bode, 1866

***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

May the blessing of the Trinity—
holy, holy, holy Lord—
be with you now and always. *Alleluia!*

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”
And I said, “Here I am; send me!” *Amen.*

***RESPONSE #80**

“You Shall Go Out with Joy”

Rubin, 1975

POSTLUDE

Selected

(*) Those who are able may stand.

Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.