



First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
Henderson, Texas

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2020

— *Gathering* —

**PRELUDE #837**      ***"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"***      Hoffman, 1887

**WELCOME**      Rev. Michele R. Goff

**OPENING SENTENCES**

Children of God, come to the waters.  
***We gather to be restored and renewed.***  
Come, with your faith and your doubt.  
***We respond to the one who claims and calls us.***  
Come, Christ summons us to draw near.  
***Let us worship God with joy and thanksgiving!***

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**HYMN #463 (361)**      ***"How Firm a Foundation"***      Rippons, 1787  
*(Alternate hymn numbers are for the old blue hymnals.)*

**CONFESSION**

In faith and hope, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

***Lord, we long to draw close to you, but we are afraid. We are afraid to heed your summons for we do not know what awaits us when we step out in faith. We are wary of taking risks for your sake because the forces of chaos seem stronger than your assurances to us. We worry that we will not have enough faith in you or in the gifts you've given us to do the things you ask. Forgive us Lord, and save us. Reach out your hand, and lift us from our fear that we might follow you faithfully.***

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! ***Thanks be to God.***

— *Word* —

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE**

Our first lesson today is from Paul's letter to the Romans, chapter 10 verses 5 through 15. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. Listen to the word of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Our gospel lesson is from the gospel according to Matthew chapter 14 verses 22 through 33. Listen to the word of the Lord.

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. ***Thanks be to God.***

## DESCRIPTION OF PRAISE

— Response —

**HYMN #215 (85)** "What Wondrous Love Is This" American folk hymn, 1811*(Alternate hymn numbers are for the old blue hymnals.)***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Loving God, you cause rain to fall on the just and the unjust.

Hear our prayers for your church and world:

for the hungry and the overfed, **may we have enough;**for the mourners and the mockers, **may we laugh together;**for the victims and the oppressors, **may we share power wisely;**for the peacemakers and the warmongers, **may clear truth and stern love lead us to harmony;**for the silenced and the propagandists, **may we speak our own words in truth;**for the unemployed and the overworked, **may our mark on this earth be kindly and creative;**for the troubled and the secure, **may we live together as wounded healers;**for the homeless and the pampered, **may our homes be simple, warm, and welcoming;**for the vibrant and the dying, **may we all die to sin and live to love. Amen.****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.***INVITATION TO OFFERING**

At this time in the service, we would usually collect our gifts and offerings. Even though we are worshipping differently, we are still doing the work of the church. We are thankful that you continue to support our church and her ministries with your time, talent and treasure.

Thank you!

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION***God of unending gifts, we praise you for your abundant goodness. As you are generous, we want to be generous too. May the gifts we bring extend your generosity into the world, so that all people may be made whole by your goodness and grace. Amen.*

— Sending —

**BLESSING AND CHARGE**May the blessing of the Trinity—holy, holy, holy Lord—be with you now and always. **Alleluia!**Lead a life worthy of your calling, giving glory to God in all things. **Amen.****HYMN #159 (308)** "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"

Benson, 1899

*(Alternate hymn numbers are for the old blue hymnals.)**"Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences"*