

Ever seeking your glory, we pray for loved ones . . .
Cast out all the demons that afflict us—illness, addiction, prejudice, pride.
Speak to us with healing power. To you, O God, we cry; **be gracious to us.**
Gracious God, turn our mourning into dancing and change our sorrow into joy,
so that we may give you thanks and praise forever; through Jesus Christ, the
light of the world. **Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, ...

MUSIC

Joshua Allen

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. Michele R. Goff

There is only one Lord and God, from whom all things come and for whom
we live. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Claudia Morgan-Gray

We praise and thank you, Lord God, for the majesty of your work, the wisdom
of your word, and the generosity of your grace. Let the gifts of our lives bear
witness to your goodness and mercy, your faithfulness and justice, and your
steadfast love for all. **Amen.**

— Sending —

BLESSING AND CHARGE

Rev. Michele R. Goff

POSTLUDE

Joshua Allen



*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*

Rev. Michele R. Goff.....Pastor
Joshua Allen.....Music Director
Stefen Kane.....Admin Assist.



First Presbyterian Church Henderson

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 31, 2021

Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.

Service for the Lord's Day

— Gathering —

PRELUDE

Joshua Allen

WELCOME

Rev. Michele R. Goff

OPENING SENTENCES

Liturgist, Claudia Morgan-Gray

Give thanks to the Lord with your whole heart
in the company of the congregation.

The Lord is gracious and merciful, ever mindful of the covenant.

***The works of God's hands are faithful and just, established
forever and ever.***

Holy and awesome is God's name.

God's praise endures forever!

MUSIC

Joshua Allen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Claudia Morgan-Gray

CONFESSION

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

You have shown us, O God, what it means to follow you.

Forgive us when we fail; open our hearts and minds to your teachings.

You modeled compassion in the person of Jesus Christ, but we do not

extend kindness to strangers or friends. You challenge systems of

injustice through the movement of your spirit, but we keep choosing

comfort over justice, the status quo over the kingdom of God. You

create all things good, and your creation sings your praise, but we

consider no creatures but ourselves and wound your earth by our sin.

Forgive us, O God. Pour your compassion on us this day, and by your

forgiveness, show us how to share it with one another.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

Rev. Michele R. Goff

— *Word* —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Claudia Morgan-Gray

SCRIPTURE

Rev. Michele R. Goff

Our first reading for today is from the Hebrew book of Deuteronomy chapter 18, verses 15 through 20. Speak to us, Lord, for your servants are listening.

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

Our gospel reading is from the gospel according to Mark chapter 1, verses 21 through 28. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. Listen to the word of the Lord.

A new teaching, with authority! **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“What have you to do with us?” Rev. Michele R. Goff

ASCRPTION OF PRAISE

— *Response* —

MUSIC

Joshua Allen

INSTALLATION/REAFFIRMATION OF MARY & STEVE

STATEMENT OF ORDINATION

Kathy Porter

Today, the session installs to active service those who have been previously ordained: *ruling elders* Mary and Steve Lowe.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Rev. Michele R. Goff

As God calls some to particular forms of ministry, God calls us all to bear gladly the yoke of Christ given in the covenant of Baptism.

Let us, therefore, reaffirm our baptismal vows, renouncing all that opposes God and God’s rule and affirming the faith of the holy catholic church.

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I do.**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love? **I do.**

Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love? **I will, with God’s help.**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith. Do you believe in God the Father? **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS FOR THE CONGREGATION

Kathy Porter

Do we, the members of the church, accept Mary as ruling elder, with Steve who is serving an additional term with our other Session members as chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

Do we agree to pray for *them*, to encourage *them*, to respect *their* decisions, and to follow as *they* guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION, ^{ADAPTED}

Rev. Michele R. Goff

DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION

Kathy Porter

WELCOME 2021 SESSION

Rev. Michele R. Goff

MUSIC

Joshua Allen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Claudia Morgan-Gray

Mindful of the many needs around us, we turn to God for help and healing, saying:

To you, O God, we cry; **be gracious to us.**

Ever seeking your glory, we pray for the church . . .

Build us up in faith, hope, and love, that we may live in grace and peace according to the word of Christ Jesus. To you, O God, we cry; **be gracious to us.**

Ever seeking your glory, we pray for the world . . .

Raise up prophets in our midst who will call us to embrace your way of righteousness, justice, and peace. To you, O God, we cry; **be gracious to us.**

Ever seeking your glory, we pray for this community . . .

Establish justice and mercy in our streets. Give food to those who are hungry and deliver all who are in distress. To you, O God, we cry; **be gracious to us.**