Lord's Prayer		
Our Father who a	art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,	
thy kingdom com	e, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.	
Give us this day o	our daily bread;	
and forgive us ou	r debts as we forgive our debtors;	
and lead us not i	nto temptation but deliver us from evil.	
For thine is the ki	ingdom and the power and the glory, forever, Ame	en.
INVITATION TO OFFER	ING	
OFFERTORY	Let It Be Said of Us (Fry)	Ensemble
*Doxology #607		
Praise God, from	whom all blessings flow, Praise Christ, all people	here below;
Praise Holy Spirit	t evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Ar	men.
*PRAYER OF DEDICAT	ION	
God of unending	gifts, we praise you for your abundant goodness.	
-	ous, we want to be generous too.	
May the gifts we	bring extend your generosity into the world,	
so that all people	e may be made whole	
	s and grace. Amen.	
	– Sending –	
*Нүмһ #438	Thy Word is a Lamp unto My Feet	
*BLESSING AND CHAR	RGE	
May the blessing of th Alleluia!	ne Trinity— holy, holy, holy Lord— be with you now	and always.
Lead a life worthy of y	our calling, giving glory to God in all things.	
Amen.		
Postlude	Wonderful Words of Life	Joshua Allen
You may sit after the li	ight passes you in the aisle.	
~~~~~~	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	
	Rev. Michele R. Goff	Pastor
	Joshua Allen	Music Director
	Debbi Ricci	



Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences



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## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HENDERSON, TX

7th Sunday after Pentecost

July 16, 2023

(*) Please rise in body or in spirit Bold Italic Letters indicate congregational response — Gathering — Marching to Zion PRELUDE Joshua Allen WELCOME Rev. Michele Goff Liturgist: Claudia Morgan-Gray ***CALL TO WORSHIP** Let us offer our praise to God, for we come to learn God's ways. O God, your word is a lamp to our feet. A light to our path; We lift our hearts to you as we seek to worship, adore, and follow you. *PRAYER OF THE DAY **Morning Has Broken** *Нуми #664 CONFESSION As much as we try not to stray: we do. As much as we try to follow God's word: we don't. As we continue on this journey, let us seek God's forgiveness together: O God, we are quick to say, "We didn't know." "We didn't mean to." "We didn't expect that to happen." But we have not tended the soil of our lives. We let it stay shallow and rocky by not learning from the experience of others. We let it be riddled with thorns by succumbing to our own prejudices. Life-giving God, Help us to tend our soil. Open us to being challenged, enable us to learn, so that your word will take root and bear good fruit in our lives. Assurance of Pardon There is no condemnation for us: God has forgiven us that we might live according to the Spirit. The Spirit of God dwells within us. Thanks be to God! * GLORIA PATRI #581 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 -

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

First Testament Reading	Genesis 25:19-34	Bible p. 20-21, LG p. 26-27			
The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. Listen to the word of the Lord.					
Second Testament Reading	Romans 8:1-11	Bible p. 147, LG p. 191			
Hear the word of the Lord.					

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

Thanks be to God.		
Gospel	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	Bible p. 13, LG p. 16-17
Hear God's wisdom for us.		
The wisdom of God, for the p	eople of God.	
Thanks be to God.		
Sermon	Sower, Seeds, and Soil	Rev. Michele Goff
ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE		
	— Response—	
*Нүмп #531	Seed, Scattered and Sown	
*Affirmation of Faith		
Adapted from the Confession	of 1967, 9.32–33	
The life, death, resurrec	tion,	
and promised coming of	Jesus Christ has set the pattern f	or the church's mission.
His human life involves t	the church in the common life of a	ıll people.
His service to men and w	vomen commits the church	
to work for every form o	f human well-being.	
His suffering makes the o	church sensitive	
to all human suffering so	o that it sees the face of Christ	
in the faces of persons ir	n every kind of need.	
His crucifixion discloses	to the church God's judgment on a	the inhumanity
that marks human relat	ions, and the awful consequences	;
of the church's own com	plicity in injustice.	
In the power of the risen		-
	Christ and the hope of his coming	<i>J</i> ,
	Christ and the hope of his coming nise of God's renewal of human lij	
	nise of God's renewal of human lij	
the church sees the pron and of God's victory ove	nise of God's renewal of human lij	
the church sees the pron and of God's victory ove	nise of God's renewal of human lij r all wrong. pattern in the form of its life	

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us pray in the Spirit, who helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words. Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer*.

## ...In the Spirit, we pray to you, O God,

confident that all things work together for good for those who love you and are called according to your purpose. Above all, we give you thanks, O God, that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**