

LORD'S PRAYER

*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 **More Precious Than Silver** Ensemble

***DOXOLOGY # 607**

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**

*God of the harvest, you are continually planting the seeds of your love
in our world and in our lives.
As we bring our gifts to you, may they be seeds of your grace, peace, and hope,
planted deeply in our community. Amen.*

— Sending —

***HYMN #23** **God, You Spin the Whirling Planets**

***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

The blessing of the holy, triune God, who was and is and is to come—first and last, beginning and end, Alpha and Omega—be with you now and always. **Alleluia!**
Go in peace to love the Lord your God with heart and soul and mind and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE **Postlude on "Presto" (No. 6 Mvmt III by Pescetti)** Joshua Allen

You may sit after the light passes you in the aisle.



Rev. Michele R. Goff.....Pastor
Joshua Allen.....Music Director
Debbi Ricci.....Admin. Assist.



*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HENDERSON, TX**

**19th Sunday after Pentecost
October 8, 2023**

<https://c1.wallpaperflare.com/preview/256/978/530/ladino-hebrew-it-headstone-tomb.jpg>

(*) Please rise in body or in spirit
Bold Italic Letters indicate congregational response

— **Gathering** —
A Place in the Choir

PRELUDE

Ensemble

WELCOME

Rev. Michele Goff

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Jimmy Chapman

Let us come to worship.

Let us come to learn. Let us come to witness.

Let us come to change. Let us come to repent.

Let us come to worship.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*HYMN #630

Fairest Lord Jesus

CONFESSION

God's law is right and just, offering us wisdom and enlightenment.

Yet we ignore the importance of God's law in our lives and persist in our own ways.

In humility, let us confess our sins.

God of the law and the prophets,

We do not want to admit all the commandments we have broken.

We worship idols of money, success, and power.

We use your name to justify whatever we do.

We do not honor each other; we covet, we lie, we wish evil upon others.

Our sins are too many to name.

Forgive us.

Speak to us and we will listen, remembering that you are our freedom and deliverer.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Do not be afraid:

God loves us with an everlasting love; God's grace is unending.

Siblings in Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God for such graciousness!

*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

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Bible p. 63-64, LG p. 82-83

The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. Listen to the word of the Lord.

SECOND READING

Psalms 19

Bible p. 472, LG p. 613-614

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.

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-46

Bible p. 22-23, LG p. 29

Hear God's wisdom for us.

The wisdom of God for the people of God. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON

Commands or Gifts?

Rev. Michele Goff

ASCRPTION OF PRAISE

— **Response**—

*HYMN #469

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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

Our shepherd satisfies our needs; in faith, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

Loving shepherd, lead and guide us—in green pastures and by still waters, in right paths and through dark valleys, until we feast with you in glory and dwell in your house forever; through Jesus Christ our Savior. ***Amen.***