THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father which 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 the Offering

To You, O Lord, We Lift Our Eyes OFFERTORY

Jack Brooks

*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

—Sending—

*HYMN # 475 Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight Postlude

Jack Brooks

You may be seated after the light passes you in the aisle.



Debbi Ricci.....Administrative Assistant Jack BrooksGuest Organist



Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences



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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HENDERSON, TX 10th Sunday of Pentecost August 17, 2025

—Gathering —

PRELUDE How Firm a Foundation Jack Brooks
WELCOME Liturgist: Carol Scoggins

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 146)

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live and sing of God's love forever!

For my hope is in You, O Lord, who made the heavens and the earth.

You execute justice for the oppressed and give food to the hungry.

You watch over the strangers and lift up those who are bowed down.

You reign for all generations! Praise Your holy name!

*HYMN# 435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God who cares for all, You set us free from what holds us captive: our desire that makes us selfish, our ambition that makes us isolated, and our judgment that makes us unjust.

Yet, we still favor these earthly things that distract us from what You call us towards and let them rule over our lives.

Forgive us, O Lord, and bring us back to Your commandment of love.

Help us remember our neighbors in need, for we ourselves have been in need.

Guide us towards Your holy solidarity until the whole world knows Your love. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

...Proclaim the good news with me:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. 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 READING Acts 8:26-40 Bible p. 119, LG p. 154

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Exodus 23:1-19 Bible p. 66-67, LG p. 86

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON You Know the Heart of an Outsider Rev. Brendan McLean

-Response-

*HYMN # 766 The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God who sees and knows us, amidst the discord of the world, Your voice speaks truth. Help us to hear this truth as we say:

...So that we may live,

God, help us seek goodness.

...may we pray the prayer Jesus taught us, in whatever language we are comfortable: