

First Presbyterian Church Worship Bulletin 11.7.21

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer

Arr: Dale Wood

Call to Worship

When we long for the special effects we think life should offer:

it is enough, for us, that God comes in a soft, autumn shower.

When we our hearts are cracked by the drought of doubt:

it is enough, for us, that God opens up the fountains of faith for us.

When our senses are deadened by the sales pitches of our culture:

it is enough, for us, that God wraps us in the silence of grace.

Call to Confession

Our God is a God of justice, waiting to be gracious to you. Blessed are all who wait for the Lord. With a repentant heart and in faith, let us confess our sins to God almighty. Let us pray...

Unison Prayer of Confession

God, we confess that we do not always understand Your ways. We are easily discouraged when life takes unexpected turns and our carefully laid plans and dreams come to nothing. We confess that we are quick to give up when things get difficult, and quick to question Your presence and Your power. Forgive us. Grant us patience to wait for Your good timing. Open our eyes to recognize Your leading in our lives—to listen for Your gentle whisper when we least expect it. And then give us courage to step out in faith and obedience, trusting in Your leading even when we cannot yet see the outcome. Amen.

Prayer Song *Open My Eyes That I May See #324 v1*

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;

Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, They will to see;

Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Silent Reflection and Confession

***Proclamation of the Gospel**

Please stand with me as you are able and celebrate the good news of the gospel...The steadfast love of God is with you—yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Whether you turn away or doubt, whether you follow timidly or joyfully, you are loved and forgiven in Christ.

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another and share the peace we have found in God with our neighbor.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another in the name of our Risen Lord by bowing or waving to our neighbors around us.

***The Gloria Patri**

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray...Holy One, prepare us to receive your word. As we listen in faith and hope, open our souls to your still, small voice. Free us from the confinement of our hearts, that we may hear the promise of your love. Amen.

Scripture 1 Kings 19:1-18

Sermon *Hearing the Still, Small Voice*

***Hymn of Response** *When Peace like a River*

*1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

Refrain:

*It is well with my soul;
it is well; it is well with my soul.*

*2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,*

and hath shed his own blood for my soul. [Refrain]

*3 He lives: O the bliss of this glorious thought.
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! [Refrain]*

*4 Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
even so it is well with my soul. [Refrain]*

Prayers of the Community & Lord's Prayer

To respect others' privacy, we ask that you first ask permission from an individual for whom you would like to request the congregation to pray. Please share only their first name and avoid detailed descriptions of their situation in awareness that your words are recorded online.

Offering Our Gifts and Ourselves to God

Offertory

Sicilienne

G. Fauré

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Giving and forgiving God, you show up in our lives in every situation. And this we are thankful. You give of yourself in leading our lives into new adventures. May these gifts that we have given be used to hear you and lead us into new paths of serving you. Amen.

***Benediction**

Postlude

Peaceful Medley

Arr: Phillip Keveren

(Peace Like a River/It is Well With My Soul)

