

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

695 E. Calvin Street, Fayetteville, AR 72703 • (479) 442-4411 • www.fupcfay.org

*please stand as you are able.

Please fill in the center seats first.

July 8, 2018, 11:00 a.m.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Prelude in G

Friedell and Bach/arr. Lee
Jeannie Lee, Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to others.)*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mason Blanz

This is a thin place

Where earth and heaven embrace

Where past interweaves with future

Where people gather expectantly

This is a thin place

Where hopes are renewed

Where faith is restored

Where peace is revived

Where love is refreshed

This is a thin place

Where fresh words are heard

Deep wisdom revealed

Daring promises proclaimed

This is a thin place

Where the God who shaped us

The Christ who remakes us

The Spirit who inspires us

Walk among us

Full of grace and truth

God above us

God beside us

God within us

May we be open to see and hear

Your grace revealed

As we worship you this day

(Source: Craig Mitchell, posted on Prayers that Unite Facebook page, May 2018)

*HYMN 529

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Glory to God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(seated, unison)*

Jane Scroggs

God of Justice and Mercy, we know that we have fallen silent when we should have spoken up. We have ignored the cries of the innocent and joined the crowds in calls of judgment. We have mistaken revenge for justice and have sought punishment to ease our pain. Forgive us, God, for not seeing our own faults, our own sins, and for not holding ourselves responsible for our inaction and injustice. Restore us, God, to the ways Jesus taught us, to drop our stones and instead seek forgiveness and restoration. Call us into the paths of love and reconciliation, knowing Your mercy extends to all of us, Your grace is a gift, and there is nothing we can do to deserve or earn it. Guide us into living into Your forgiveness, peace and reconciliation, in the name of the Prince of Peace. *(silent reflection) Amen.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: **in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

*RESPONSE 175

Seek Ye First

Glory to God

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find;
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.

Alleluia, alleluia!

You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.

Alleluia, alleluia!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SONG 2233

Where Children Belong

Sing the Faith

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.

Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer and song: This is where children belong.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Phil Butin

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:15-18

¹⁵"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Acts 2:37-47

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Acts 4:32-35

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(selections from a Brief Statement of Faith)*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

The Blessing Song

R. Button

*In the desert wandering, in a mob, all alone.
We are tired, hungry, afraid You will disown.
Bread, quail and water You did not postpone.
Words from your heart, written on two stones.*

*Oh, you bless us, guiding us home
Praise God who blesses us, never leaving us alone.*

*For You give us each other to love and to share.
You send down to us a Brother to show us how to care.
And instead of being grateful, instead of walking with you.
We kiss Him, betray Him, and send Him back to You*

*And still He blesses us, through His precious gift.
Yes He blesses us, that through Him we all live.*

*We're not blessed to dominate, we're not blessed to withhold.
We're not blessed to confiscate, we're not blessed to scold.*

*We are blessed to be a blessing to one and to all
to share all of Creation, to lift each other up when we fall
God, you give them to us, to see just what we'll do
Could it be because you want for us to give them too?*

*We are Your blessing, may we return the deed,
Praise God who blesses us. Help us bless those in need.*

*RESPONSE 2045

Sing a New Song to the Lord (verses 1 and 2)

Sing the Faith

**Sing a new song to the Lord, he to whom wonders belong!
Rejoice in his triumph and tell of his power—O sing to the Lord a new song!
Now to the ends of the earth see his salvation is shown!
And still he remembers his mercy and truth, unchanging in love to his own.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God, in your grace ... You hear our prayers.

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.

SENDING

***HYMN 837**

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Glory to God

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE**

Go in Peace, Go in Love

POSTLUDE

Standing on the Promises

arr. Todd Beaney

+ + +

*Please help stack the chairs on the racks conveniently located below
the large stained glass window before leaving the worship space.
Thank you for your help and we hope to see you again next week!*