



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

October 18, 2020

11:00 a.m.

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Phil Butin

OPENING PRAYER

Lord our God, your mercies toward us are more than we could ever hope to deserve. We stand in awe before You. Quiet any restlessness in us that we might hear you. Still us to feel your touch. We come together for one purpose—to worship you with scripture, song, and prayer—to know your presence with us always. Amen.

PRELUDE

A Prelude for Restoration: DISTRESS from The Sacred Harp

Carol Nave, organist

Arranged by Robert Powell (b. 1932)

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 139)

Connor Robbins and Lindsey Robbins

Where can we go from God's spirit? Where can we flee from God's presence?

There is nowhere we can go where God cannot find and help us.

If we stray so far from God's path that we cannot find our way back,

even there, God's hand will keep us.

Even if darkness covers us and we can see no light,

the night is as bright as the day, for God is the light of the world.

How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God. How vast is the sum of them!

I try to count them. They are more than the sand. I come to the end. I am still with you.

Come, let us worship the Lord!

(adapted and used with permission, revolution blog, Rev. Mindi on Worship Resources)

*HYMN 436

God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us

Glory to God

Words and Music by John J. Moment

**God of compassion, in mercy befriend us,
giver of grace for our needs all-availing.
Wisdom and strength for each day ever send us,
patience untiring and courage unailing.**

**Though we are lost, you have sought us and found us,
stilled our rude hearts with your word of consoling.
Wrap now your peace, like a mantle, around us,
guarding our thoughts and our passions controlling.**

**How shall we stray, with your hand to direct us,
you who the stars in their courses are guiding?
What shall we fear, with your power to protect us,
we who walk forth in your greatness confiding?**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgiving God, we are humbled by your love for us, especially when we know we have failed you by what we have said and left unsaid; by what we have done and left undone. We have refused to forgive though others have forgiven us. We have been quick to see the speck in another's eye without noticing the log in our own. We have judged and withheld care to our detriment. We have insisted on our own way without concern for the hurt it causes those around us. We have built walls and barriers that damage relationships with those we are called to love. We cannot save ourselves from the anger, estrangement, hurt, and unfairness we feel. We need your arms of healing around us. As you work to redeem and restore the world, show us where and how to forgive. Open our eyes to see our faults, open our mouths to ask for forgiveness, open our hearts to accept your mercy and to grant your forgiveness to others, not just seven times, or seventy, but as often as you ask. (*silent confession*) Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Forgiveness is mercy.

Such pardon and kindness, I cannot fathom.

Forgiveness is unfailing love.

Such patience and understanding, I cannot comprehend.

Forgiveness is overwhelming compassion.

Such sympathy and warmth, I cannot reciprocate.

Forgiveness is the blotting out of transgressions.

Such freedom and goodwill, I do not deserve.

Forgiveness is the washing away of my iniquities.

Such purity and newness, I cannot maintain.

O Lord, open our lips, and our mouths will declare your praise!

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

(written by Steve Brown on Worship Ideas You Can Use, <http://sjbrown58.wordpress.com/>)

*RESPONSE 67

My Song Forever Shall Record
15th Century Melody; Adapted by Michael Praetorius

Glory to God

**My song forever shall record
the tender mercies of the Lord;
your faithful love will I proclaim,
and every age shall know your name.**

**Almighty God, your lofty throne
has justice for its cornerstone,
and shining bright before your face
are truth and love and boundless grace.**

*THE PEACE

Harper Werner

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

CHILDREN'S SONG 2233

Where Children Belong
Words and Music by James Ritchie

Sing the Faith

**This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.**

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Brianne Christiansen

ANTHEM

Come, Ye Sinners Poor and Needy
Words by Joseph Hart; Music from Walker's *Southern Harmony*

Emily Jackson
Paige DeJarnett

*Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power.*

*[Refrain] I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.*

*Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome; God's free bounty glorify,
true belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh. [Refrain]*

*Come, ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all. [Refrain]*

*Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;
all the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him. [Refrain]*

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev. Jan Butin

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times." ²³ "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow

slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

SERMON

Soul Care: Forgiveness

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(The Heidelberg Catechism)*

Mary Mann

What do you believe concerning "the forgiveness of sins"?

I believe that God, because of Christ's satisfaction, will no longer remember any of my sins or my sinful nature which I need to struggle against all my life. Rather, by grace God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgment.

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY

Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus
Setting by Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Carol Nave, organist

*RESPONSE 620

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven
Words by Henry Francis Lyte; Music by John Goss

Glory to God

**Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.**

**Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress;
praise him still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God in your grace, you hear our 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.

*HYMN 441

Hear the Good News of Salvation

Glory to God

Words: Native American (Dakota); Music from Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*

**Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great Mercy! Come to us from heaven above.**

**[Refrain] Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look up-on me. Love me still and cleanse with-in.**

**All the sins I have committed, to my Savior now I bring.
I bow down with tears of anguish; Christ forgives and so I sing: [Refrain]**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE 437

You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!

Glory to God

Music: Appalachian folk melody; Arranged by Richard D Wetzel

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**

POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Lauda Anima"

Arranged by Michael Burkhardt (b. 1957)

