

September 12, 2021

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



As you settle into your seat please take a moment to reflect and prepare yourself to experience God's presence. Take a moment to consider these words of contemplation:

*If you want to rest here below and hereafter, in all circumstances say, Who am I? and do not judge anybody. ---- Joseph of Panephysis (fourth century).*

You are our honored guest! Whether you are seeking a church home, invited by a friend, or just passing through, we pray that worship today is a blessing that inspires you and strengthens your faith. The music for today's service is available in your bulletin and on the screen. The women's restroom is down the hall (turn left when exiting Fellowship Hall.) It is on the right. The men's restroom is down the hall, around the corner on the right. As a kindness, please silence all technology at the start of today's worship.

† *Please stand in body or in spirit when indicated by the cross.  
Please read together when the printing is bold.*

*Thanks to the Deacons for today's refreshments.  
Deacon of the Week: Octavia Payne*

# Welcome and Invitation to Worship

*Prelude-The Heart Worships by Gustav Holst  
Sung by Peyton Aujay, accompanied by Maeve Wonderly*

*Opening Prayer of Blessing  
(Please join silently together in mind, in spirit and in heart.)*

*Loving God, we come to this time of worship with the love of You in our hearts, the hope of You in our spirits and the intellect of You in our minds. This morning we bear the witness of You who are righteous, and we trust in the courage and the strength that comes to us by the power of Your Holy Spirit. Grant that during this time of worship and praise that we not worry about transient things but, rather, that we grow in our love of things eternal. Bless us holy God in this sacred time of worship. In Christ Jesus we ask all these things...Amen!*

## **† Opening Hymn of Praise-Blessed Be Your Name**

### *Verse 1*

*Blessed be Your name  
In the land that is plentiful  
Where Your streams of abundance flow  
Blessed be Your name*

### *Verse 2*

*Blessed be Your name  
When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness  
Blessed be Your name*

### *Pre-Chorus*

*Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll  
Turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in Lord  
Still I will say*

### *Chorus*

*Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name*

### *Verse 3*

*Blessed be Your name  
When the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's all as it should be  
Blessed be Your name*

### *Verse 4*

*Blessed be Your name  
On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering  
Blessed be Your name*

### *Pre-Chorus*

*Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll  
Turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in Lord  
Still I will say*

### *Chorus*

*Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name*

### *Bridge (two times)*

*You give and take away  
You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say  
Lord blessed be Your name*

### *Chorus*

*Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name*

*Prayer of Humility-(please join audibly together)*

*Loving and Holy God, so often we do not ask to see or to know Your ways or how to trust in You. Forgive our arrogance-the arrogance that leads us down paths of pride and of judgement. Forgive us for our lack of discernment and of prayer – forgive us for neglecting to meditate upon You and Your commandments day and night. Hear us now as we silently confess our sins to You. Seeking in these moments an awareness of our need for You. In Christ Jesus we ask these things....Amen.*

(Please take a few quiet moments for your own personal confession)

*Assurance of God's Love*

*Friends, it is to God that we are to lift our soul, to God that we place our trust. When we do this we are never humiliated nor put to shame. For the scripture promises when we ask to be shown the ways of God, God shows us the way. When we ask to learn the path of God, God provides the teaching and the ultimate teacher, Christ Jesus. And friends, this is the Good News of the Gospel! That in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!*

**† Responding to God in Praise- Glory Be To the Father**

The musical score is written for a piano accompaniment in 2/2 time, featuring a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost, As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men." The piano accompaniment includes chord symbols such as Bb/F, F, F7, Bb, Bb7, Eb, Ab/Eb, Eb, Bb, Bb7, Bb, Bb7, Bb, Bb7, Bb, Bb7, Eb2, Eb, Bb, Ab, Eb, G, Ab6, Eb/Bb, Bb13, Bb7, and Eb. The score is numbered 1 through 14.

*Text: Traditional, Music: Henry W. Greatorex*

*A Time of Prayer and Commissioning for the 2021-22 Year of Education  
at First Presbyterian Church*

# Going Deeper

*(All readings are from the New Revised Standard Version)*

*Scripture Readings:*

*Psalm 116:1-9*

*James 3:1-12*

*Read by Wendy Hutchison*

*Responding to God's Word-Art Thou The Christ? by Geoffrey O'Hara  
sung by Peyton Aujay, accompanied by Maeva Wonderly*

*Prayer of Light*

*Mark 8:27-38*

*Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.*

*Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."*

*He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."*

*Meditation on the Word*

## † Hymn of Grace-More Love to Thee

G C/G G G/B D G D/F# A7/E D G C/G G

> 1. More love to Thee, O Christ, More love to Thee! Hear Thou the  
 > 2. Once earth - ly joy I craved, Sought peace and rest; Now Thee a -  
 > 3. Then shall my lat - est breath Whis - per Thy praise; This be the

1 2 3 4 5

G/B D G D7 G/D D G C/G G

prayer I make On bend - ed knee. This is my ear - nest plea:  
 lone I seek; Give what is best. This all my prayer shall be:  
 part - ing cry My heart shall raise. This still its prayer shall be:

6 7 8 9 10

D7 G<sup>4</sup>/2 G C G/B Am G/D D G

More love, O Christ, to Thee, More love to Thee, More love to Thee!  
 More love, O Christ, to Thee, More love to Thee, More love to Thee!  
 More love, O Christ, to Thee, More love to Thee, More love to Thee!

11 12 13 14 15 16

*Text: Elizabeth P. Prentiss Music: William H. Doane*

### *Dedication of Gifts and the Pastoral Prayer*

#### *The 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power and the Glory forever and ever! Amen.***

# Carrying His Light to the World

## † Closing Hymn--Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1. Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God, my Fa - ther;  
 2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.  
 Sun, moon and stars in their cours - es a - bove,  
 Thy own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide.

Thou chang - est not; Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not.  
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row -

As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy and love.  
 Bless - ings all mine with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Refrain*  
 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by

morn - ing new mer - cies I see; All I have need - ed Thy

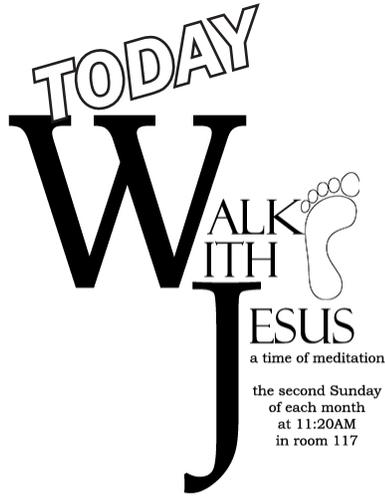
hand hath pro - vid - ed. Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm  
 Music: William M. Runyan

## Charge and Benediction

Postlude--Revive Us Again arr. by Marty Parks

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## NEXT SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE:

*Proverbs 31:10-31*  
*Psalm 1*  
*James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a*  
*Mark 9:30-37*

## SUNDAY EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

*The Berean Class led by Carolyn Moody  
meets at 9 AM (room 117)*

*Youth Class will be offered at 9 AM  
(Recreation Center lobby)*

*A Fall Sunday Evening Class for Adults studying  
The Grace of Les Miserables by Matt Rawle  
Led by Christina Ubry (Dates/Time to be determined)*

## OTHER COMING EVENTS...SPIRITUAL NURTURE & OUTREACH

*Community Bible Study at Confluence-Begins September 23  
(Studying the Gospel of John this fall. Please bring a Bible, an open spirit, a generous heart, and a mind ready to learn.)  
Coffee House Concerts 7-9 PM  
October 8-David Lucas*

## WORSHIP

*September 19-5 PM-Bon Fire with Vespers (Evening Prayer)  
@Rodgers' Farm  
Dinner and hay rides, too! Please bring a chair and friends! Hot dogs, buns, paper products provided.  
If you can bring snacks, pop or an ingredient for s'mores,  
please sign up at the round table and let us know what you will bring.*

*October 14- Autumn Harvest Soup Dinner at 5:30 PM in Fellowship Hall*

**Please Offer a Prayer for:** (Prayer requests will remain on this list for two weeks unless otherwise requested.)

- ...Local students, teachers, bus drivers and all school personnel
- ...Health/Rehab: Rolf Berner, Elizabeth Lombardo, Anthony Settle, Christian Golub, Tom Rohan, Jeanette Norris
- ...Rev. Grace Basham as she seeks her next pastoral call
- ...Remember our homebound members: Betty Kitchen, Kathy Huffman, Mike Ramsey, Nancy Stewart, Jim Rugh, Bob Jackson, Lois Greene Sellers
- ...Those affected by the recent flooding in Louisiana, North Carolina, Tennessee, and New England
- ...Those in fire danger across the country
- ...Linda & Marty Barletto and the Shannon Family
- ...Afghanistan and the refugees
- ...Ethiopia (schools, areas of political unrest)

## Staff

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Stephen Leiterra

Sexton

### **VOLUNTEER STAFF:**

Adele Marcotuli

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Wendy Hutchison

## We Know What You Did *and Thank you*

*Behind the scenes there are always folks lending a hand to make things happen...*

**THANK YOU:**

*Garry Cunningham & Stephen Leiterra for your work repainting and cleaning the Youth Room.*

*Amy Kunselman & Wendy Hutchison for your efforts to decorate and make the Youth Room a vibrant space for our youth to enjoy while on their faith journey.*

*Don & Ernie Rodgers for clearing out the old furniture from the Youth Room...making way for a new day.*

*Adele Marcotuli & Kim Rodgers for the many hours spent preparing for the Friday-Saturday Clothes Reduction Sale and also for decoration Fellowship Hall for the first Coffee House Concert of the Fall.*



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