



## First Presbyterian Church

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# Service for the Lord's Day

May 9, 2021

11:00 a.m.

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

*Whether you are visiting just for today or seeking a church home, we are glad you are here!  
We invite all worshippers to record your presence with us by signing the blue folders found in the pews.*

### Gathering in Prayer

PRELUDE

"Bind Us Together"

Bob Gillman

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF THE MORNING

**Great and loving God, your will for us in Jesus is the peace which the world cannot give; your abiding gift is the Advocate he promised. Calm all troubled hearts, dispel every fear. Keep us steadfast in love and faithful to your word, that we may always be your dwelling place. Grant this through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.**

### Gathering Around the Word

INTROIT

"This is My Commandment"

Richard VanOss

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather to worship as people of Easter,  
**People: people who know Life is stronger than death.**  
Leader: We gather to worship as children of God,  
**People: children loved and claimed by the risen Lord.**  
Leader: We gather to worship in the body of Christ,  
**People: the church called out for service in the world.**  
Leader: Easter people, Christ is risen!  
**All: Christ is risen indeed!**

**Let us Worship God.**

+PRAYER OF ADORATION

+HYMN OF ADORATION

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

#356

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, whose love knows no bounds, forgive us when we fail to reflect your loving kindness. When we turn away from the goodness of your love, call us back with the tender voice of a caring friend. When we stumble over the gift of your grace, lift us up with the strong arms of a loving parent. When we are certain that we are alone in the chaos of this world, shower us with peace, the gentle breeze of an evening rain. When we cannot feel the flowing of your peace, show us your love with the hands and feet of Christ, your love incarnate. Forgive us, risen Christ, of all the ways we fall short, and teach us to be agents of resurrection in the world. Amen.**

*(A moment of silent prayer for personal confessions.)*

+KYRIE ELEISON     ***Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.***

+DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

+GLORIA PATRI     ***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.***

## Proclaiming the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

ANTHEM

“Lord, Speak to Me”

Hopson/Havergal

PSALM READING

Psalm 98

Leader: Sing to the LORD a new song, for the LORD has done marvelous things.  
**People: The right hand and the holy arm of the LORD have secured the victory.**  
Leader: The LORD has made known this victory and has openly showed righteousness in the sight of the nations.  
**People: The LORD remembers mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**  
Leader: Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.  
**People: Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.**  
Leader: With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the Sovereign, the LORD.  
**People: Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, the lands and those who dwell therein.**  
Leader: Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who is coming to judge the earth.  
**All: In righteousness shall the LORD judge the world and the peoples with equity**

THE ACTS READING                    Acts 10:44-48  
Leader:                    This is the Word of the Lord  
People:                    **Thanks be to God**

THE EPISTLE                            1John 5:1-6  
Leader:                    This is the Word of the Lord  
People:                    **Thanks be to God**

MEDITATION                            "The Gift of Love"                            Hal Hopson

THE GOSPEL                            John 15:9-17  
Leader:                    This is the Word of the Lord  
People:                    **Thanks be to God**

SERMON                                    "Even for the Gentiles"                            Rev. Clint Schofield

## Responding to the Word

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH                            The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried, he  
descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead, he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to  
judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the  
forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD AND 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;  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

***Hear our prayer, O Lord,  
Hear our prayer, O Lord.  
Incline thine ear to us,  
And grant us thy peace. Amen.***

# Bearing and Following the Word into the World

HYMN "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" #298

## COMMISSIONING

Leader: Friends of Christ, carry God's love into the world.  
You have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit.

**People: May the Holy Spirit inspire our words.  
May God's love in Christ empower our deeds.**

Leader: Sing of the victory of self-giving friendship.  
Witness to the saving power of love.

**People: In Christ, we are no longer servants but friends.  
We are learning to love as we have been loved.**

Leader: God judges the world with righteousness.  
Our efforts are accepted with steadfast faithfulness.

**All: We clap our hands with appreciation and joy.  
The law of love is reigning in our hearts.**

## BENEDICTION

+BENEDICTION RESPONSE "I've Got Peace Like a River" #368

POSTLUDE "Love One Another" High Mitchell

+Please stand, if you are able



*Grant, O Lord,  
that what has been said with our lips we may believe in our hearts,  
and that what we believe in our hearts we may practice in our lives;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*