

~Gathering the Family of God~

The Peal of the Church Bell

Prelude *Renew Me, O Eternal Light* Johann Walther

Welcome

One: The peace of Christ be with you.
 All: **And also with you.**

Call to Worship

One: God has called us by name to come and worship together,
 and we respond with delight and gladness.

All: **In joyful faith, we come to worship our gracious God.**

One: Rising out of the depths of slumber,
 we gratefully gather for worship.

All: **In joyful hope, we come to worship our generous God.**

One: Our God has given us a new song of praise to sing!

All: **In joyful trust, we come to worship our faithful God.**

*Hymn *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* #187

*Call to Confession

God does not look for sacrifices, but for open ears, seeking the truth.
 Grand gestures are not required, but only a delight in doing the will of God. Let us
 confess our sins before God and one another.

*Confession of Sin (in unison)

**God of Light, we confess that we have gone astray and turned from your light.
 We follow the dim lights of the world of success and fortune. We follow the dim
 lights that call us to be more religious by following rules. We follow the fading
 light of personal salvation rather than placing our trust only in you.
 Forgive us for not seeking the true light of your love for all the world.
 Forgive us for not following the ways of Jesus, who commanded us to love one
 another. Call us to be light-bearers of love, compassion and justice, so that the
 mystery of your love is revealed. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

*Silent Confession

*Assurance of Forgiveness

My friends, behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
 God has put a new song in our mouths and placed a new melody on our tongues.
 Believe the good news. By God's grace sins are forgiven.

*Gloria Patri # 581

**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.**

Tune: Gloria Patri, Henry W. Greatorex, 1851, Public Domain.

Heifer Project

Recognition of Birthdays and Anniversaries

A Song of Blessing (Adapted from an Irish Blessing, Tune: *Amazing Grace*)
**May joy and peace surround you,
 contentment at your door,
 And happiness be with you now,
 God bless you evermore.**

~Hearing God's Word~

Prayer for Illumination

God, you spoke your word and revealed your good news in Jesus, the Christ.
 Fill all creation with that word again, so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all
 nations and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples, we may become one living
 body, your incarnate presence on the earth. Amen.

Old Testament Isaiah 49:1-7 Page 679

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm Psalm 40:1-11 Page 513

One: The Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God.**

Special Music *Give Thanks* by Henry Smith
Soloist Will Bahn

Gospel John 1:29-42 Page 92

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Message *Come and See* Rev. Terry Epling

*Affirmation of Faith

**All: 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.** [The Apostles Creed].

*Hymn *We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding* #191

~Responding to God's Word~

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation to Become a Joyful Giver

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings & Friendship Pad

Please take a moment to sign your name and contact information in the pew pad. You may also share any joys or concerns on the cards in the pews. Place them in the offering plate for inclusion in the prayers of the people.

Offertory *Let Me Be Thine Forever* J.C. Bach

***Doxology** *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* # 606

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Amen.***

***Offering Prayer**

God, we recognize that we have been blessed with great abundance. In offering these gifts, may we be strengthened to proclaim your faithfulness and your salvation this day and always. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

*** Closing Hymn** *Lord, You Give the Great Commission* #298

***Life in Our Church Community**

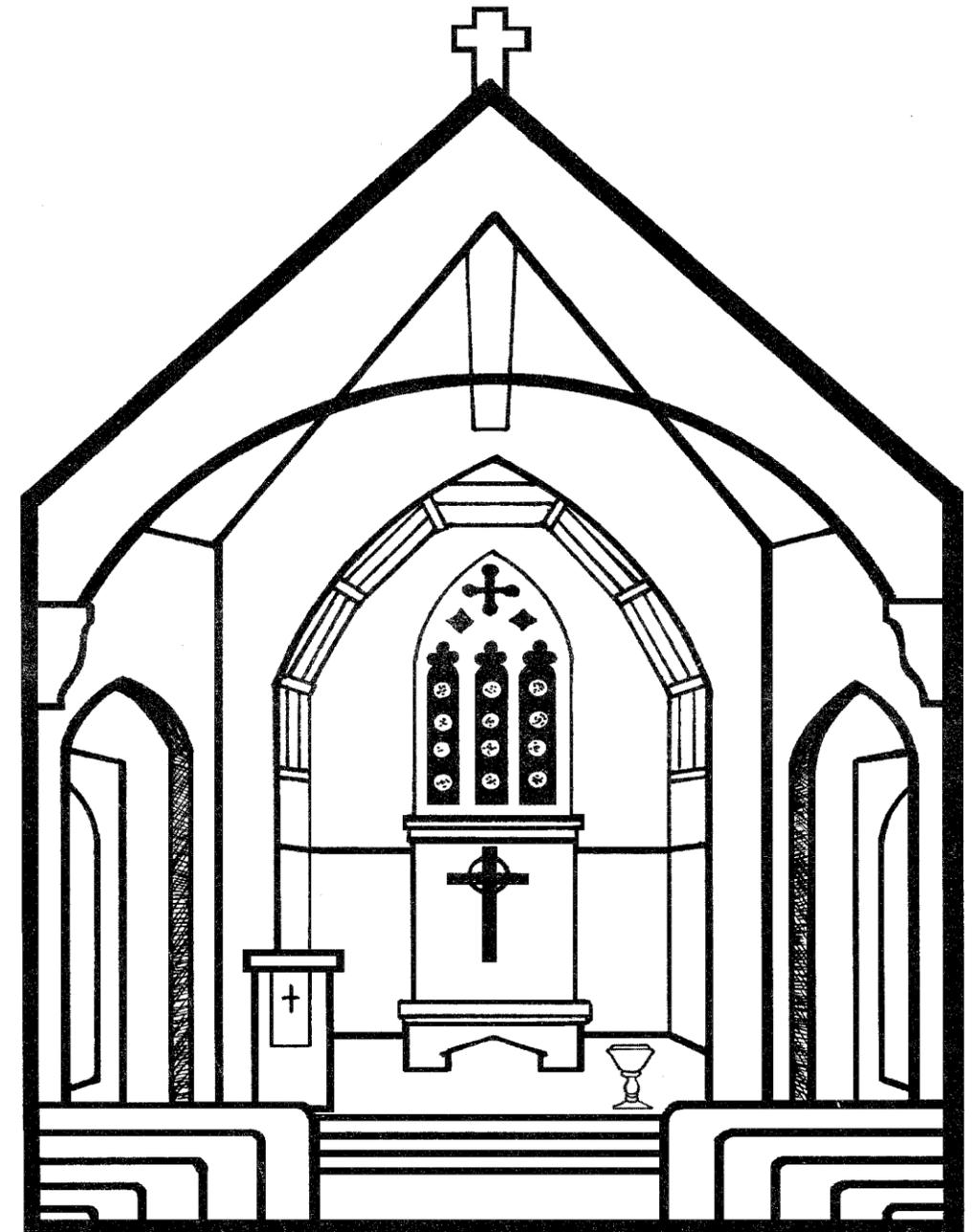
***Benediction**

As we leave this place, remember:
God, who chose you before your birth,
who calls you and knows you by name,
now sends you out into the world—
to bring light to those in darkness,
comfort to those who grieve,
hope to those who despair.

And may the blessing of God,
the love of Jesus Christ,
and the presence of the Holy Spirit
be among you and within you
as you seek to do God's will. Amen.

***Postlude** *Postlude in G* Henry Kilken

**Please stand, if you are able.
Electronic aid for the hearing impaired is available from the usher.*



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI