

Third Sunday after Pentecost

July 30, 2017

~Gathering the Family of God~

The Peal of the Church Bell

Prelude

Father, I Adore You

Terrye Coelho

Welcome and Call to Worship

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

One: O give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name, make known God's deeds among the peoples.

All: **Sing to the Lord, sing praises to our God; tell of all God's wonderful works.**

One: Glory in God's holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

All: **Seek the strength of the Lord; seek the presence of God continually.**

One: Remember the wonderful works God has done, God's miracles, and the judgments God uttered, You offspring of God's servant Abraham, children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.

\*Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

#1

\*Call to Confession

God never forgets God's promises; God's covenant endures in each new generation. We are free to speak the truth about our lives because God's faithfulness embraces us as we examine our hearts. Trusting in God's love, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

\*Confession of Sin (unison)

God of mystery, God of life, we imagine that we are capable judges of power and wisdom and goodness. We trust our own standards; we separate and categorize; we mark the performance of others.

We fail to trust your power, hidden in all things. We fail to watch for you, working out your purposes. Gracious God, hidden and manifest, transform our withered imaginations until we yield the judgments we trust to a love we cannot control. Amen.

\*Silent Confession

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

One: What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? Sisters and brothers, nothing we have done, nothing we will ever do, is enough to separate us from the love of God made known in Jesus Christ.

All: **In Jesus Christ, we 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

~Hearing God's Word~

Prayer for Illumination

Spirit of life, we do not know how to pray as we ought. Meet us in words written, in words spoken; intercede for us with sighs too deep for words, until we shine with the hope that is hidden in our hearts, for we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Old Testament

Genesis 29:15-28

page 26

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 105:1-11

page 556

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 8:26-39

page 158

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

Matthew 13:31-33; 44-52

page 14, 15

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Message

Parables of the Kingdom

Rev. Terry Epling

\*Affirmation of Faith (unison)

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

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

#833

~Responding to God's Word~

Life in our Church Community

Invitation to Give

The apostle Paul promises that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. We trust that God will bring forth good from that which we offer today. It is our privilege to participate in the unfolding of God's grace in the world. Let us give with grateful and expectant hearts.

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings & Friendship Pad

*Please take a moment to sign your name and contact information in the pew pad.*

Offertory

*Be Still, My Soul*

J. Sibelius

\*Doxology

*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow  
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.*

#606

\* Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Holy One, receive these offerings as you receive our lives. Gather our false starts and uncertain efforts, our generosity and our reluctance. Enliven us with your breath and make your purposes known, that our lives might show forth your glory, for we pray in the name of Jesus and by the power of your Spirit. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and 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.*

\* Closing Hymn

*O Worship the King, All Glorious Above*

#41

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Postlude

*Wake. Awake, for Night is Flying*

J.G. Walther

\*Please stand, if you are able.

Electronic aid for the hearing impaired is available from the usher.

# First Presbyterian Church

235 Broadway, Cape Girardeau, Missouri

