

~Gathering the Family of God~

The Peal of the Church Bell

Prelude *I Know that My Redeemer Lives* Richard Wienhorst

Welcome and Call to Worship

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: God cares for us completely and calls for our total commitment.

All: Christ gave his life that we might live and calls us to give our lives to him.

One: Through Christ we have died to sin;

All: In Christ we are fully alive to God.

One: Come, let us worship God.

***Hymn** *Be Thou My Vision* #450

***Call to Confession**

Trusting in God's love, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

***Confession of Sin (unison)**

God of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac, God of Hagar and Ishmael, you gave us your Son, Jesus Christ, and sent your Holy Spirit to help us truly repent.

We confess our tendency to turn against one another; we fail to care for the weak and poor among us. We pay no heed to the cries of the powerless; we seek our own advantage.

Forgive us, merciful God. Wipe sin from our lives and let us find ourselves wholly in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Silent Confession**Assurance of Forgiveness**

God, who loves us, does not abandon or forsake us. Our Savior hears and answers when we cry out with a repentant heart. Death cannot bind us, for the risen Christ sets us free. Hear the good news: in Jesus Christ you 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

Prayer for Illumination

O God, you have the power to make a desert a place of renewal and a cross a sign of redemption. Send your Holy Spirit so that we can hear you and entrust ourselves completely to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Old Testament

One: The Word of the Lord.

Genesis 21:8-21

page 17

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

One: The Word of the Lord

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

page 544

All: Thanks be to God.

Epistle

One: The Word of the Lord

Romans 6:1b-11

page 156

All: Thanks be to God.

Special Music

O the Glory of Your Presence

Steve Fry

Gospel

One: The Word of the Lord.

Matthew 10:24-39

page 10

All: Thanks be to God.

Message

Difficult Teachings of Jesus

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**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

#39

~Responding to God's Word~

Life in our Church Community**Invitation to Give**

Christ knows every breath we take: each one is a gift from the Spirit.

God watches over, protects, and provides for us. Let us present our offerings of thanksgiving for the goodness of God.

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings & Friendship Pad

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

Offertory

Abide, O Dearest Jesus

Johann Pachelbel

*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)

God who is Trinity, we lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving for the life in Christ Jesus that we receive from you. You have shown that your mercy overcomes sin and evil and brings relief from oppression. We thank you for your steadfast love that keeps covenant with your people. In Christ we know the depth of your care for all that you create. We invite the Holy Spirit to help us so that we can praise you eternally in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. 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

Christ Is Alive!

#246

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

The Day is Surely Drawing Near

Michael Praetorius

*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

