

~Gathering the Family of God~

The Peal of the Church Bell

Prelude *All Glory Be to God on High* Johann Pache

Welcome

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

Call to Worship

One: God does not see as mortals see. *1 Sam. 16:7*
We look on the outward appearance;
God looks on the heart.

All: **Jesus, Light of the World,
give us eyes to see as you see!** *John 9:5*

One: Once we lived in darkness, but now— *Eph. 5:8-9*
as children of light, we are called
to what is good and right and true.

All: **Jesus, Light of the World,
give us eyes to see as you see!**

*Hymn *Come, Live in the Light!* #749

*Call to Confession

*Confession of Sin (unison)

Gracious God, we are people who still love darkness rather than light. We keep shameful deeds secret, but flaunt our occasional acts of virtue. We see ourselves as blameless, but pass judgment on others. We do not stand firmly enough with those who are vulnerable, but step back, protecting ourselves.

Forgive us, we pray.

Bring us into your light that we may see ourselves rightly.

Bring us into your light that we may know ourselves loved.

Bring us into your light that we may live more fruitful lives.

Keep raising us, we pray, from the deadness of sin, and shine upon us with your grace. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

*Silent Confession

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*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

Old Testament 1 Samuel 16:1-13 page 259

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

Psalm Psalm 23 page 471

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

Epistle Ephesians 5:8-14 page 194

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

Anthem *Open My Eyes That I May See* arr. Hal Hopson

Gospel John 9:1-41 page 102

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

Message Was Blind But Now I See 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 *All Who Love and Serve Your City* #351

~Responding to God's Word~

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

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 pastoral prayer.

Offertory My Inmost Heart Now Raises 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.

*** Prayer of Dedication (unison)**
In gratitude, O God, we come to your table, into your presence, into your house.
For all that you have done for us, most especially, for bringing us into the light of
Jesus Christ, we offer our thanks and praise.
We long to live as children of light, doing what is pleasing to you and bearing the
fruit of the light through Jesus Christ, who awakens those who sleep, and raises
those who are dead to new life. In his name we pray. Amen.

*** Closing Hymn** *Faith Begins By Letting Go* #684

***Benediction**

***Postlude** *Almighty God, Thy Word is Cast* Rolf Unkel

**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



*“As long as I am in the world,
I am the light of the world.”*

Sunday, March 26, 2017