

## ~Gathering the Family of God~

## The Peal of the Church Bell

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

## Welcome and Call to Worship

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Rejoice and be glad! For God is our salvation.

**All: God's wisdom is radiant and unfading,  
easily discerned by all who seek God's way.**

One: When faithful men and women live in love and work for justice,  
heaven breaks into earth.

**All: Give us the grace to live confidently and expectantly, trusting that the  
Lord, who has been approaching from all eternity, will come into our life  
with compassion, redemption, and hope.**

**\*Hymn** *Blessed Assurance! Jesus is Mine!* #839

**\*Call to Confession**

Our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus and his righteousness.  
Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin that we might find forgiveness  
and new life in Christ.

**\*Confession of Sin (unison)**

**Holy and gracious God, you are all light and wonder and glory.  
You are our strength and our delight; you give us all we need to live.  
Yet we are distracted by all that glitters, continually grasping for more.  
Rather than trust in your provision, we chase after our own happiness.  
Forgive us, Lord, and turn us back to you. Overwhelm us with your goodness  
and cover us with grace, for we know that you are the source of life, the fount  
of all that is good. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

**\*Silent Confession**

**\*Assurance of Forgiveness**

Hear the good news: Nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God  
in Christ Jesus. Believe the gospel! 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

Life in Our Church Community  
Mission Moment – Salvation Army

## ~Hearing God's Word~

**Prayer for Illumination**

Send your Spirit to move in our world and stir the water of our souls that we may  
desire a word of instruction that awakens us to the joy of your coming reign. Amen.

**Old Testament** Amos 5:18-24 page 854

**Psalm** Psalm 70 page 532

**Epistle** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 page 204

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

**Choral Anthem** Brighter Than the Sun John Helgen

**Gospel** Matthew 25:1-13 page 28

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

**Message** *Be Prepared* 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** *Rejoice! Rejoice Believers* #362

## ~Responding to God's Word~

**Invitation to Give**

God is a gracious giver who opens the door to all who seek the wisdom of God's  
ways. Therefore, let us offer the gifts of our life and labor with gratitude and praise.

**Giving of our Tithes and Offerings & Friendship Pad**

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

**Offertory** *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Paul Bunjes

**\*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)**  
Gracious God, receive our gifts as tokens of thanks for your extravagant blessings, signs of trust in your coming reign of justice, peace, and love; in Jesus' name. 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**      *How Great Thou Art*      #625

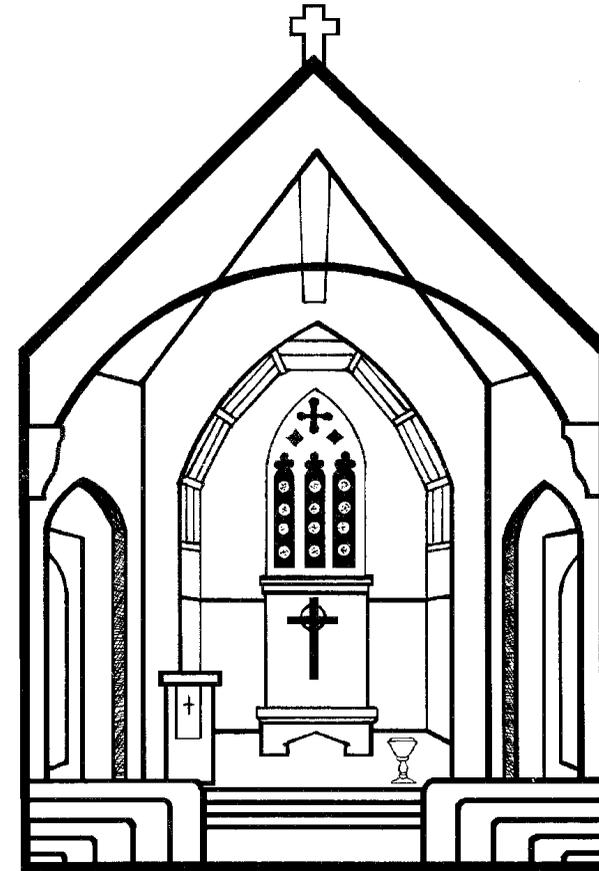
**\*Benediction**  
Keep awake, for Christ is coming  
to gather us to the welcome table,  
where we will feast in joy.

May the grace of Christ surround you,  
the love of God uphold you,  
and the Holy Spirit spark you  
with unquenchable fire  
as you wait and work for the kingdom to come.  
Amen.

**\*Postlude**      *Awake, My Heart, with Gladness*      Rudolf Moser

\*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



**Sunday, November 12, 2017**