

Scriptural Meditation

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you."

John 17:20-21

~Gathering the Family of God~

The Peal of Our Church Bell

Welcome and Greeting One Another with the Peace of Christ

Prelude

Reverie on 'Hyfrydol'

arr. by John Behnke

Call to Worship

One: Blessings on you all this day, from our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: This is the day of his ascension. He is seated on the right hand of God.

One: Honor, Power, glory and majesty are his!

All: Let us praise him with shouts of joy!

One: We are called to be witnesses to this great wonder.

**All: We are called to proclaim God's Good News of love for all God's people.
Amen.**

Prayer of Invocation

* Gathering Song

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

#260

* Prayer of Reconciliation

Let us remain standing and express ourselves to God.

All: Lord, we are "what's next?" people. We want to know what we are supposed to do. We journeyed through the Lenten Season, stood at the foot of the Cross, witnessed Jesus' Resurrection and his appearances to his disciples in an upper room and on the lakeshore. Now in this day we are called to wait. That's hard for us to do. We want to jump into some kind of action. Calm our hearts and help us to wait for the Spirit. Forgive our impatience and our lack of faith. We place our trust in your redeeming love. Amen.

*A Time for Contemplation (a private time for you and God)

*Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Jesus commanded the faithful ones to wait for the power from on high. Be patient. God's love is given to you and the power of God will enable you to be witnesses for God in this world. Be of great courage. Be still.

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

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 Understanding God's Word

One: The word of God speaks to our hearts.

(Silent reflection)

The word of God speaks to our community.

(Silent reflection)

The word of God speaks to our nation.

(Silent reflection)

The word of God speaks to our world.

(Silent reflection)

May God give us a spirit of wisdom
and revelation as we come to know Christ.

**All: Lord, help us know the glorious hope
to which you have called us through your word.
Amen.**

First Scripture Lesson

The Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

page 118

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

With a Voice of Singing by Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia.

O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honor of his name

Make his praise to be glorious.

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

[Text Inspired by Psalm 66:2]

Second Lesson

The Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34

page 136

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

Luke 24:44-53

page 91

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Message

Confirming What You Know Is True

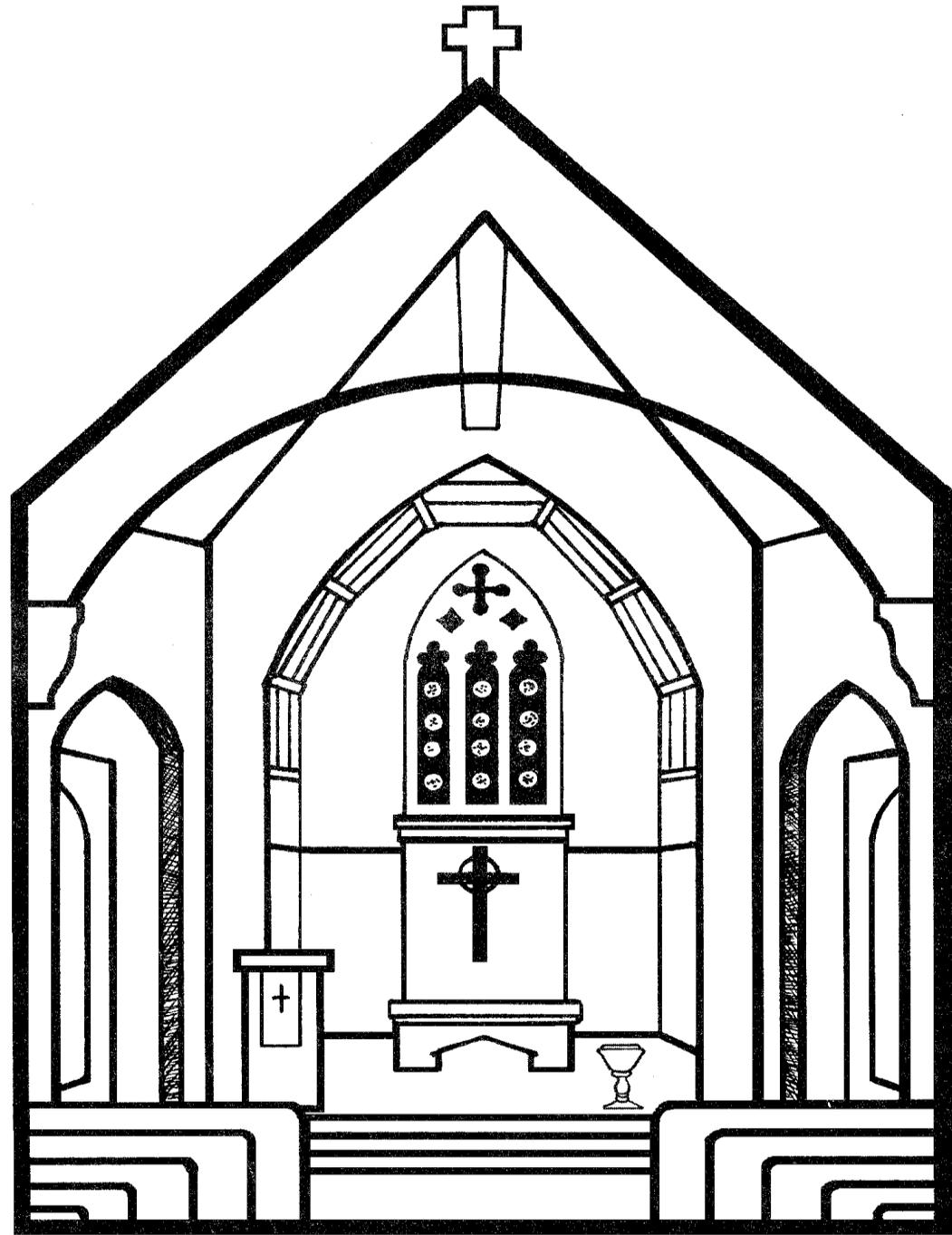
Pastor Kim Nelson

~Responding to God's Word~

*Affirmation of Faith

Let us stand and affirm our faith.

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI