

World Communion Sunday

20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 2, 2016

~Gathering the Family of God~

The Peal of Our Church Bell

Welcome and Greeting One Another with the Peace of Christ

Prelude *Refiner's Fire* by Brian Doerksen

Call to Worship (Choir) Dale Wood (2) Traditional Choir and piano

Call to Worship

One: We gather, as God's people, bringing our fears and pain.

All: Knowing that when our spirits have grown cold, God rekindles the gift of faith in us.

One: We gather, as God's people, hanging our broken hearts on the branches of the tree of life.

All: Knowing that while friends may turn against us, God transforms enemies into sisters and brothers.

One: We gather, as God's people, hungering for healing and hope.

All: Knowing that even when life is no picnic, God prepares a feast for us.

Prayer of Invocation

* **Gathering Song** *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!* # 1

* Prayer of Reconciliation

Let us remain standing and express ourselves to God.

All: We stand before you in this moment, listening God, and state what you already know. Our cheeks are carved with the tears of the pain we have caused. Our hearts are so empty we cannot comfort others. Our desires have taken us places where we cannot sing your praises. Heart-seeking God, forgive us. Plant a tiny seed of hope that it might grow into a bouquet for others. Increase our faith until it spills over in thanksgiving to you. Fill us with the love that overwhelms all our complaints and rekindles our desire to follow faithfully Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

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

*Assurance of Forgiveness

One While our failures and frailty are fresh, God's grace has been ours before time began. This is great news—we are forgiven .

All: God plants the seed of faith deep within us, growing a harvest of grace and hope. Thanks be to God, who has given us the promise of life in Christ Jesus our Lord! Amen.

*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~

God's Word for Little Ears

Prayer for Understanding God's Word

All: Living God, help us so to hear your Holy Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson

Lamentations 1:1-6

Page 762

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 137

Page 576

Anthem

I'm Pressing On

Charles Gabriel-Johnson Oatman Jr.

New Testament Epistle

II Timothy 1:1-6

page 211

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

Mark 6:30-44

page 41

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Message

Simple Gift

Rev. Terry Epling

~Responding to God's Word~

*Affirmation of Faith

Let us stand and affirm our faith.

All: 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 Spirit, 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 Spirit; 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]

Invitation to Become a Joyful Giver

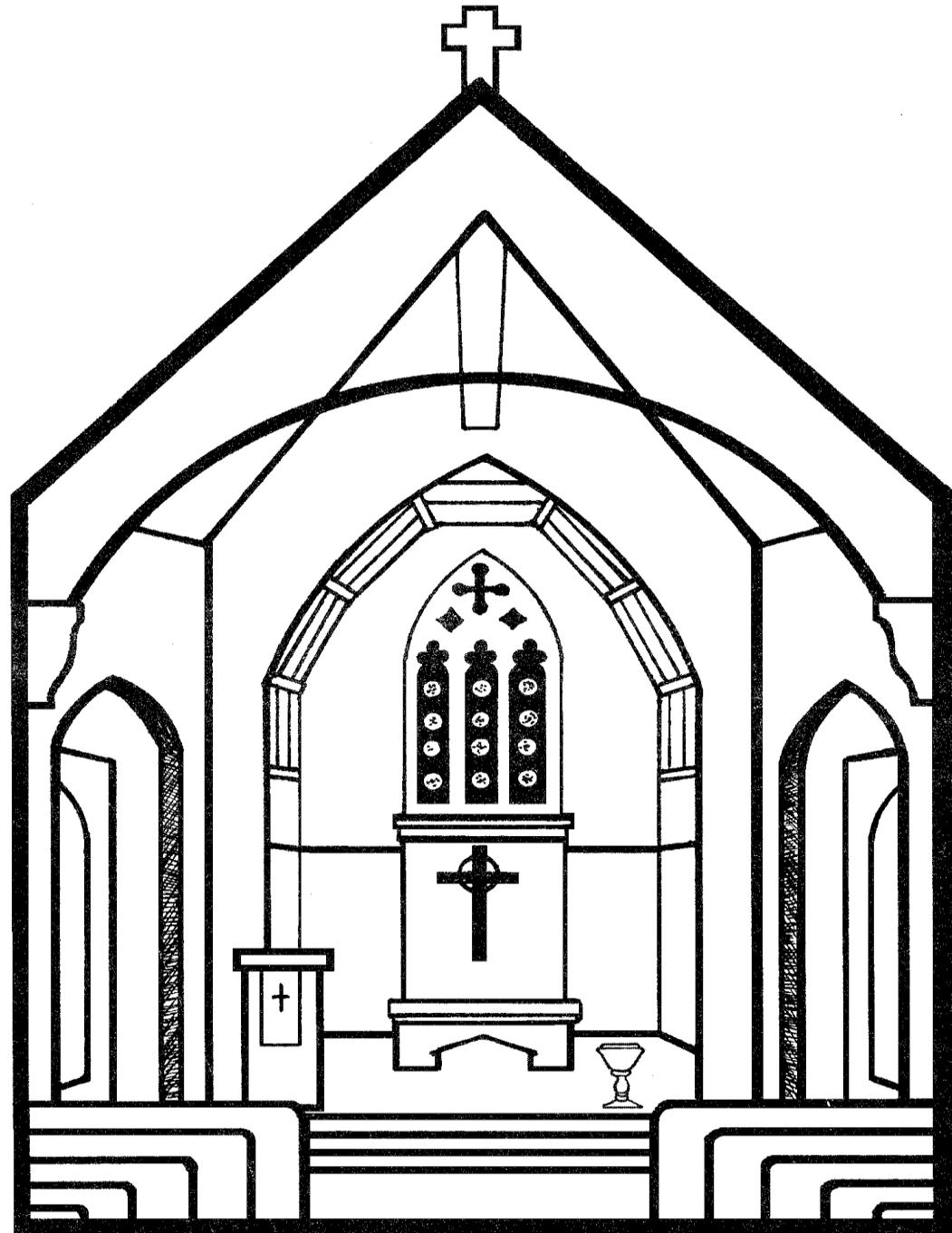
Giving of our Tithes and Offerings & Friendship Pad

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

Offertory

We Are An Offering

by Dwight Liles



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI