

17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 11, 2016

~Gathering the Family of God~

The Peal of Our Church Bell

Welcome and Greeting One Another with the Peace of Christ

Prelude "God So Loved the World" Sir John Stainer

Call to Worship

One: Merciful God, we come like sheep to the shepherd--

All: Some of us following meekly,
Some of us following bravely.
Some of us wandering alone.

One: Gather us in. Make us one with you.

All: And make us one with each other.
Through the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer of Invocation

*Gathering Song "I Love to Tell the Story" # 462

*Prayer of Reconciliation

Let us remain standing and express ourselves to God.

All: We thank you, God of love, for the good things we have managed to accomplish, the temptations were recognized and overcome, and for the wrongs, small or large, for which we have been able to make restitution. It is good to know we have not always been foolish nor rebellious sinners. Yet we have not lived, most holy Friend, with the glory you intended for us. We have not even lived up to our own meager expectations. We fail you, we fail those around us, and we disappoint ourselves. As you have graciously done in the past, look now upon our patchy lives and work that miracle of grace which is beyond human endeavor. Pity our folly and failure, forgive our sins; both the sins we see and the ones to which we are blind. Save us from the chronic perversity in our nature and bring us to your peace. Thank you, loving God. We are grateful that humanity continues to be your project. Our brokenness is brought together by your almighty tenderness, our wounds are dressed by your steady fingers, our foolish moves are countered by your long sighted strategies, and our small stock of faith is tended by your patience. Wonderful is your saving love! Through Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

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

*Assurance of Forgiveness

One God's loving choice for you is peace and hope. Rejoice!
For God is with you, reaching out to heal and care for you.
Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

People: 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.

God's Word for Little Ears – Kids Message

Rev David Schaffner

Prayer for Understanding God's Word

All: O God, we are often lost. Let us be guided by your words of hope that we may find new life and new beginnings; that we may be your people; and that you may be our God. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Page 702

One: The Word of the Lord .

All: Thanks be to God

Psalms

Psalms 14

Page 495

One: The Word of the Lord .

All: Thanks be to God

New Testament Lesson

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Page 208

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Lesson

Luke 15:1-10

Page 78

One: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Message

Growing in God's Love

Rev David Schaffner

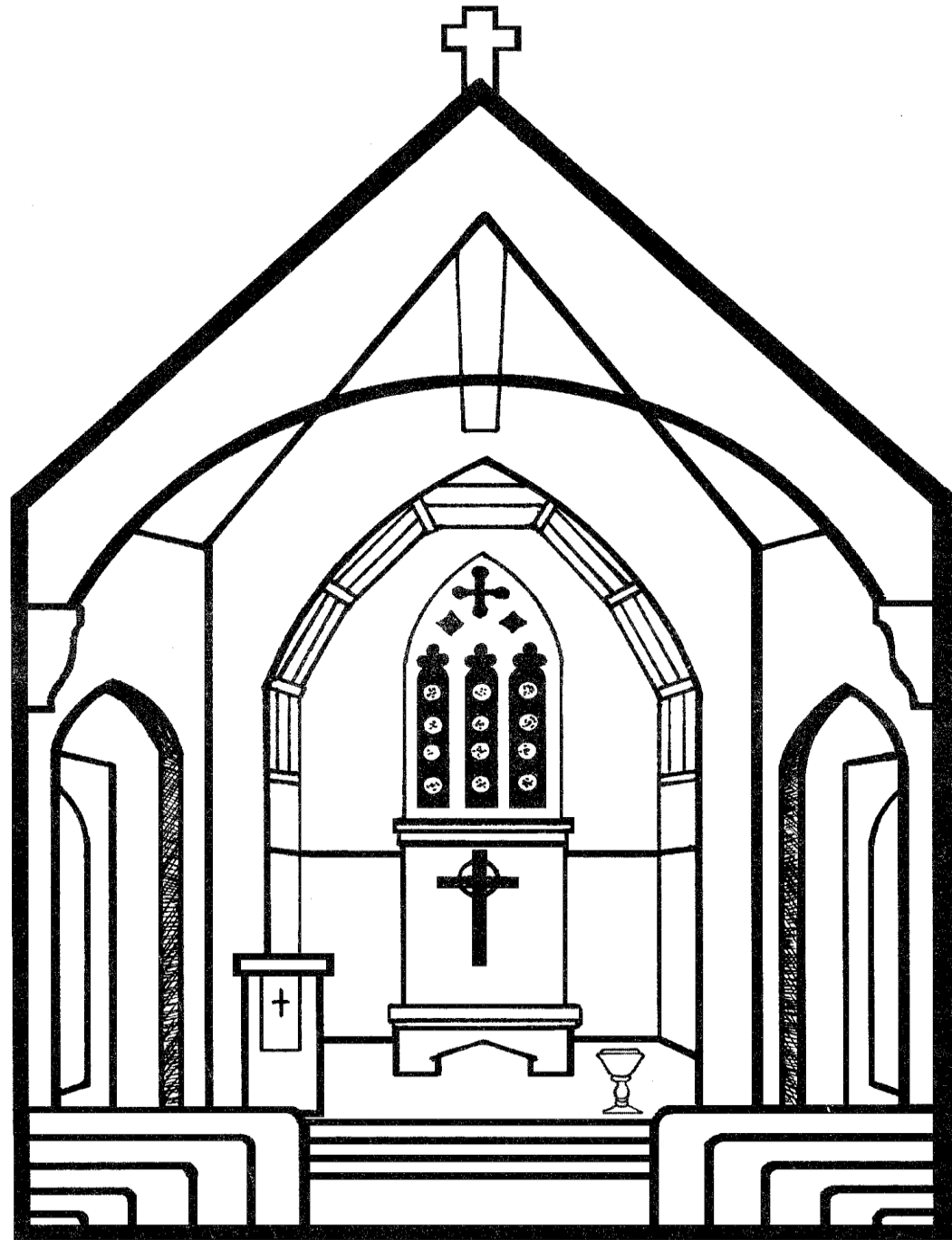
~Responding to God's Word~

*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]



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI