

*Scriptural Meditation*

But those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster.

*Proverbs 1:33*

**~Gathering the Family of God~**

**The Peal of Our Church Bell**

**Welcome and Greeting One Another with the Peace of Christ**

**Prelude**

*Contemplation*

by Richard Purvis

**Call to Worship**

One: This day Jesus is calling to you.

**All: Lord, help us to hear your call.**

One: This is a time of decision.

**All: Lord, help us to be strong and faithful.**

One: Come, let us celebrate God's love.

**All: Let us rejoice in the call of our Savior.**

One: Teach us your ways, O Lord,

**All: Help us to be closer to you. Amen.**

**Prayer of Invocation**

**\* Gathering Song**

*To God be the Glory*

# 634

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**A Confession About Using Our Tongues**

One: God, angry words explode out of us. We do not think about what we say or how it will hurt people. We only think of our own anger and putting it all into words so everyone will know how angry and hurt we feel.

**All: Forgive us for the way we hurt others with our tongues.**

One: We say things that are not quite true to make ourselves look good to others. We add to the truth, change the story just a little bit, even lie for our own good.

**All: Forgive us for the way we hurt others with our tongues.**

One: We also say things that are not quite true about others to make them look bad. We change the story just a little bit and even lie so we look better and they look worse.

**All: Forgive us for the way we hurt others with our tongues.**

One: We know lots of names that are meant to hurt and should never be said. We don't really intend to say them, but we do. We spit them out hoping they will embarrass and humiliate.

**All: Forgive us for the way we hurt others with our tongues.**

One: We promise we will never tell a secret. Then we do. It is just too good to keep to ourselves, so we break our promise and we tell.

**All: Forgive us for the way we hurt others with our tongues.**

One: We use our tongues to convince ourselves that all the wrong we have done and all the hurt we have caused are not really so bad. But we know in our hearts that they are. We have broken your Law. We have not loved you or others with our tongues or our lives.

**All: Forgive us for the way we hurt others with our tongues.**

One: Lord hear our prayers. Forgive us and guide us.

**All: May the words of our mouths then be acceptable in your sight. Amen**

**\*A Time for Contemplation (*in quiet, for you and God*)**

**\*Assurance of Forgiveness**

One: When we come before God in humility and honesty,  
God draws near to us with forgiveness and renewed blessing.  
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.**

**Children's Choir**

*This is the Day, and I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy*

(See Insert)

**~Hearing God's Word~**

**Prayer for Understanding God's Word**

**All: We ask for your wisdom, O God, not the earthly wisdom that we hear and see every day. Let your understanding flow through our lives like a stream, so that we may bear the good fruits of welcome and compassion. Teach us that our true dignity is found in honoring you by serving others. Amen.**

**Old Testament Lesson**

Proverbs 1:20-33

a responsive reading

<sup>20</sup>Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice.

<sup>21</sup>**At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:**

<sup>22</sup>"How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?"

<sup>23</sup>**Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you.**

<sup>24</sup>Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded,

<sup>25</sup>**and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof,**

<sup>26</sup>I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you

<sup>27</sup>**when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.**

<sup>28</sup>Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will not find me.

<sup>29</sup>**Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD,**

<sup>30</sup>would have none of my counsel, and despised all my reproof,

<sup>31</sup>**therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices.**

<sup>32</sup>For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them;

<sup>33</sup>**but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster."**

**Anthem** *Not Unto Us, O Lord* by Donald Busarow

**New Testament Epistle** James 3:1-12 p.230

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

**Gospel Lesson** Mark 8:27-38 p. 43

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

**Message** *A Most Gifted Teacher* Pastor Kim Nelson

**~Responding to God's Word~**

**\*Affirmation of Faith** *Let us stand and affirm our faith.*

One: Jesus was born in a barn because there was no room available in the inn. The innkeeper and most of the people in Bethlehem that night thought he was nobody, but we say,

**All: He is the Christ!** (*getting louder each time*)

One: Jesus made friends with everyone. He ate dinner with Zaccheus, the cheating tax-collector. He healed foreigners. He touched lepers. Lots of people said he was a troublemaker, but we say,

**All: He is the Christ!**

One: Jesus was a teacher. Crowds of people gathered on hillsides to hear him speak about God's love. The teachers in the Temple said he was wrong about God's love, but we say,

**All: He is the Christ!**

One: Jesus said, "Love your enemies," "Give to those in need," and "Those who lose their life for my sake will save it." Most people thought he was crazy, but we say,

**All: He is the Christ!**

One: Jesus was arrested, tried, and sentenced to die on a cross. The political and religious leaders thought they were rid of him, but he rose, and he lives. We know that..

**All: He is the Christ!**

One: When Jesus said, "If anyone wants to come with me, he must forget himself, carry his cross, and follow me," most people went home.

But we stay, and we say,

**All: He is the Christ!**

**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**

*Meditation*

by Peter Hurford

**\*Doxology**

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (# 606)*

**All: 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. A-men.**

*Tune: Old Hundredth LM, Genevan Psalter 1551, Public Domain.*

**\*The Prayer of Dedication**

**Prayers of the People followed by Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**All: 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**

**Sung Prayer Response**

#471

*O Lord, Hear My Prayer*

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,**

**When I call, answer me,**

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,**

**Come and listen to me. (Repeat)**

*Words & Music: Jacques Berthier © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé (France).*

**~Going Forth to Serve God~**

**Life in Our Church Community**

**\*Departing Song**

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

# 610

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

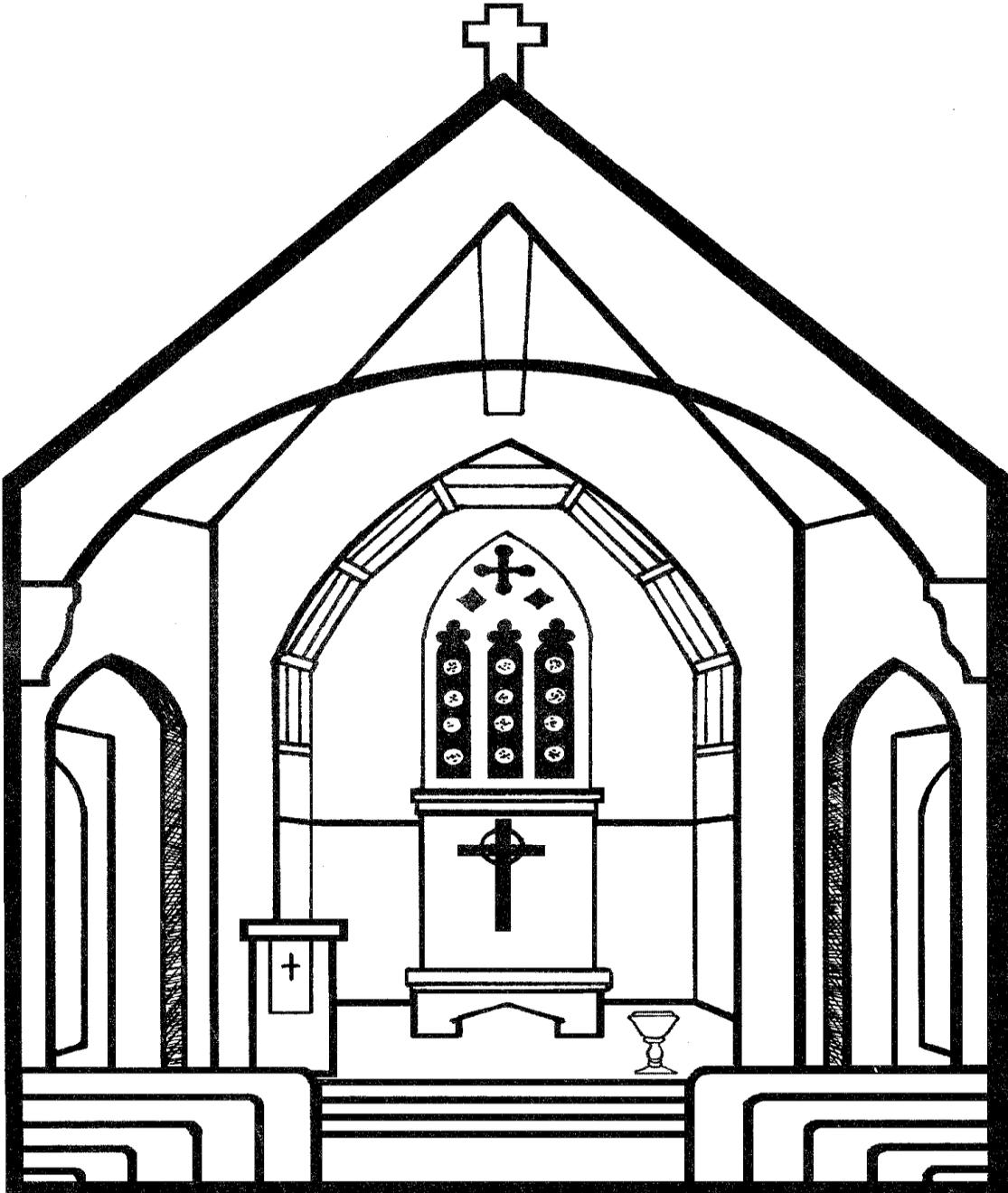
*Postlude on "Old 124<sup>th</sup>"*

by H. Hopson

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**\*Please stand, if you are able.**

Electronic aid for the hearing impaired is available from the usher.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI