

Order for the PUBLIC WORSHIP of GOD

COMMITMENT SUNDAY November 12, 2017 · 8:15 a.m.

# Welcome to Second Presbyterian Church. May our worship open our hearts to God's love, our eyes to God's beauty,

our minds to God's truth, and our will to God's service.

# Preparation for Worship

As you enter the Sanctuary, please prepare your heart for worship and silence your mobile devices.

Today is Stewardship Sunday when we heed the biblical mandate to live "as good stewards of God's varied grace" (I Peter 4:10). Living as stewards is not natural for us because we all prefer to live as owners. However, the gospel of grace transforms would-be owners into stewards and sparing hearts into generous hearts.

Giving has served as a part of worship throughout biblical history because our money reveals where our heart's treasure really lies. Abel willingly gave his offering in worship (Genesis 4:3). Offering sacrifices was a major part of Old Testament worship (Leviticus 1-5). King David declares, "I will not offer to the Lord that which costs me nothing" (II Samuel 24:24). The Apostle Paul reminds us that our giving is "a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God" (Philippians 4:18).

As you prepare for worship, reflect on this challenge from James Denney: "Ordinary charity is but the crumbs from the rich man's table; but if we catch Christ's spirit, it will carry us far beyond that." Pray that you would wisely steward all of God's resources and that you would catch Christ's spirit of generosity and become more open-handed and open-hearted with all of His resources.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: "Sonata in F Minor" . . . . . . . . . Antonio Scarlatti

Daniel Pollorena, piano

CHORAL INTROIT: "God of Grace and God of Glory" ......arr. Mark Nabholz

God of grace and God of glory, on Thy people pour Thy pow'r. Crown Thine ancient Church's story; bring her bud to glorious flow'r. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour.

> The Westminster Singers Christy Young, Director

 HYMN OF PRAISE: "How Firm a Foundation"
 FOUNDATION





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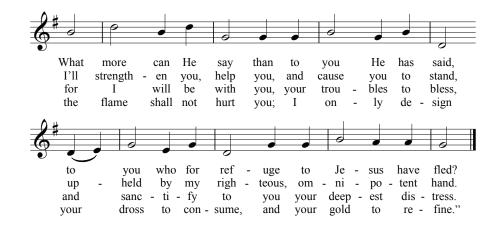
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♦INVOCATION (Please lift hands)

**†GREETINGS** 

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN......Will Nease

♦PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Michael G. Stokke

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENTS FOR 2018

HYMN OF MEDITATION . . . . . BEECHER

Lord, Thou lov'st the cheerful giver, who with open heart and hand Blesses freely, as a river that refreshes all the land.

Grant us then the grace of giving with a spirit large and free, That our life and all our living we may consecrate to Thee.

We are Thine, Thy mercy sought us, found us in death's dreadful way, To the fold in safety brought us, nevermore from Thee to stray. Thine own life Thou freely gavest as an off'ring on the cross For each sinner who Thou savest from eternal shame and loss.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS AND OUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT CARDS FOR 2018

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "This Is the Day" . . . . . arr. John Rutter

This is the day, the day which the Lord hath made:

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, the day which the Lord hath made:

We will rejoice and be glad in it, this is the day.

O praise the Lord of heav'n: praise Him in the height.

Praise Him, all ye angels of His: praise Him, all His host.

Praise Him, sun and moon: praise Him, all ye stars and light,

Let them praise the Name of the Lord;

For He shall give His angels charge over thee: to keep thee in all thy ways.

The Lord Himself is thy keeper: the Lord is thy defense upon thy right hand; So that the sun shall not burn thee by day: neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil:

Yea, it is even He that shall keep thy soul.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in:

From this time forth, forevermore.

He shall defend thee, He shall defend Thee under His wings.

Be strong, and He shall comfort thine heart,

Shall comfort thine heart; and put thou thy trust, thy trust in the Lord.

Blest by Thee with gifts and graces, may we heed Thy church's call; Gladly in all times and places give to Thee who givest all. Thou hast bought us, and no longer can we claim to be our own; Ever free and ever stronger, we shall serve Thee, Lord alone.

...... II Corinthians 9:6-15 (page 968 in the pew Bible)

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field;

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God will stand forever. Amen. (Isaiah 40:6b, 8)

**HOMILY** 

*Graced to Give (Part 4)* 

George W. Robertson

# THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

### **†INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

All those who have publicly professed their faith and joined a Christian church as a communing member are warmly welcomed to receive communion today. Non-communing worshipers are encouraged to contemplate the love of Jesus Christ during this time. At Second Presbyterian, we encourage our children not to take communion until they have joined the church as communicant members. We do, however, encourage non-communing children to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. Those wishing to be served communion together as a group or family, please stand together in front of the two serving elders before taking the elements. Gluten-free communion bread is available upon request from the elder at the east side of the transverse aisle (opposite from the door leading to the Connector).

#### 

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.

# \$\PhiGLORIA PATRI GREATOREX

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!

# CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, You have promised that if we will confess our sins, You are faithful and just to forgive our sins.
We come seeking Your forgiveness that we may know afresh the joy of Your presence and the light of Your face.
You alone know how often we have offended You and hurt the lives of others.
Forgive us, O Lord, for every unkind thought, every untrue word, and every selfish act.
Pardon us for our ingratitude and grumbling spirit,

for our careless use of money, and our forgetfulness of our sacred vows.

Have mercy on us, create in us clean hearts,

and renew a right and joyful spirit within us

#### INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

#### ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND THE 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.

## SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

For those unable to come forward for communion, please raise your hand and an elder will serve you in your seat. Throughout this time of communion, we invite you to join in singing the hymns printed in bold below.

At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious King, Who has washed us in the tide flowing from His pierced side; Praise we Him whose love divine gives His sacred blood for wine, Gives His body for the feast, Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

Where the paschal blood is poured, death's dark angel sheathes his sword; Israel's hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe. Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, paschal victim, paschal bread; With sincerity and love eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from the sky, pow'rs of hell beneath Thee lie; Death is conquered in the fight, Thou hast brought us life and light: Hymns of glory and of praise, risen Lord, to Thee we raise; Holy Father, praise to Thee, with the Spirit, ever be.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Thou art the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me after Thy will, While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Search me and try me, Master, today! Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now, As in Thy presence humbly I bow.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Wounded and wary, help me, I pray! Power, all power, surely is Thine! Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Hold o'er my being absolute sway! Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see Christ only, always, living in me!

Alas! and did my Savior bleed, and did my Sovereign die! Would He devote that sacred head for such a worm as I!

Was it for crimes that I have done, He groaned upon the tree? Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide, and shut its glories in, When God, the mighty maker, died for His own creature's sin.

Thus might I hide my blushing face while His dear cross appears; Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, and melt mine eyes to tears.

But drops of tears can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe. Here, Lord, I give myself away; 'tis all that I can do.

 $INSTRUMENTAL\ MEDITATION:\ "Speak,\ O\ Lord"......Keith\ Getty;\ arr.\ McDonald$ 

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

- **†**BENEDICTION (Please lift hands)
- **†CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN**

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Now Thank We All Our God" . . . . Sifrid-Karg Elert; arr. Bock

♦ Indicates congregation standing

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