

# ***First Presbyterian Church, Danville, VA***

Morning Worship—October 25, 2020

## **REFORMATION SUNDAY**

### **DRAWN IN TO EXPERIENCE GOD’S GRACE**

As the chimes ring in the worship hour, we invite people to enter a time of personal reflection and congregational worship. \*\*\*Please note: There will be no congregational singing at this time.\*\*\*

**Worship Participants:** Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Broschart, Heather Perryman, Tim Carpenter, Janet Phillips, Eddie Blount, Gene Hayes, and Bernadine Hayes

#### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**

Jackie Rochford

#### **PROCESSIONAL**

*“Highland Cathedral”*

Tim Carpenter

#### **KIRKIN’ O’ THE TARTANS**

#### **PRELUDE**

*“As the Deer”*

Flute & Piano by Janet Phillips &  
Heather Perryman

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Psalm 46**

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea**

Though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.**

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth**

Behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

**“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

#### **HYMN**

*“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”* with the first stanza in German offered  
by Mack Williams

### **DRAWN TOGETHER TO EMBODY GOD’S GRACE**

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**See Attachment**

#### **MUSIC MEDITATION**

*“Sarabande”* by J.S. Bach

Janet Phillips, Solo

#### **REMEMBERING THE SAINTS**

**FLOWERS OF THE FIELD**

Tim Carpenter, Solo

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Jeremiah 31:31-34, Romans 3:19-28

**SERMON:**

“Two Gifts of the Reformation – The Glory of God and Joy”

Rev. Broschart

**DRAWN FORTH TO EXTEND GOD’S GRACE**

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

“To God Alone Be the Glory”

by Heather Perryman

**Please remain seated for the final offering of worship**

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of those with an October birthday by Joyce Perez.*

*Thanks to Dr. Janet Phillips, Mack Williams, and Tim Carpenter*

*for participating in our worship service and blessing us with beautiful music.*

**\*There will be a congregational meeting Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> to approve the 2021 budget, by-laws, and terms of call.**

**AIDS TO WORSHIP**

**THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

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.

**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.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (Debts/Debtors)

This litany is based on the resolution adopted by the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly: On Responding to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The resolution calls the church to “commit to continuous discernment of how to meet the social justice, economic, and spiritual challenges of the pandemic. We set aside Sunday, October 25, 2020, Reformation Sunday, as a day of prayer for responding to those challenges.”

L: *Why have you forgotten us completely? Why have you forsaken us these many days?*

P: **Restore us to yourself, O Lord, that we may be restored, renew our days as of old.**  
**(Lamentations 5:20-21)**

L: Creator God, from sanctuaries, family rooms, parking lots, and shelters, from north, south, east and west, we gather as your church to embody the Gospel of Jesus Christ, who is the Word made flesh.

P: **As we raise our prayers in this global crisis, raise us to lives bearing witness in word and work, heart and hand, prayer and practice for the healing of the world You so love.**

L: Hear our cries as we mourn the staggering loss of precious lives, more than one million worldwide. Hear the helpless outrage of the most deeply marginalized, many of whom are at the mercy of systems and structures which oppress. Hear the deepest sighs of those cut off from contact or who have no one to care.

P: **We pray for immigrant communities,  
for impoverished and working poor persons,  
for people whose jobs and businesses are in jeopardy,  
for homeless persons and those for whom home offers no health or  
safety,  
for those who are challenged in body, mind or spirit,  
for older persons, for nursing home residents  
and the hospitalized, for those in prisons,  
for those from high-risk communities who have little choice about  
their jobs,  
for all who have no access to adequate, affordable health care, and  
for nations already struggling with poverty, inequality and  
exploitation of their resources.**

L: As we consider how to be and do church in the midst of uncertainty and conflicting opinions, guide us so that our choices honor You far above our own desires for normalcy, whatever that may mean.

P: **Inspire the same creativity you gave us when you made this world. Focus our decisions on how to fulfill the Great Ends of the Church, how to care for one another, and how to utilize the best evidence of science for the well-being of the world.**

L: God of all the nations, we pray for leaders in every land, including ours, to respond with wisdom and grace to this medical and economic cataclysm.

P: **May all seek your peace and justice for their people and for the world.**

L: Grant hope, courage and wisdom on behalf of children and youth who must now move forward into a future where dreams and stability have been radically altered.

**P: We commit to dismantling disparities in education and in access to nutrition, technology and necessary resources. We pray for parents and guardians to have the ability to swallow their own fears as they comfort children and tackle new math.**

L: With gratitude, we support and advocate for the safety of those who put themselves at risk, such as hospital and health care staff, public safety employees, educators and staff, public transportation providers, child care workers, volunteers at food banks and other outreach programs, and the many others whose lives and well-being are just as essential as their jobs.

**P: Show each of us the special gifts you have given so we may nurture the hero within to bring your love, your light and your hope to the world in the way we live as we follow Jesus Christ. Make us your new humans.**

L: On this day when we remember our rich heritage of faith, we join the great cloud of witnesses who trust you to lead us through the wilderness of this pandemic into a land overflowing with justice and peace for all.

**ALL: For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give a future with HOPE.  
(Jeremiah 29:11)**