of your caring to invite us to share in your creative and healing work. We are here because we have heard you speak in us and through others. Help us, dear Lord, to ever respond to you and your invitation to your grace... **Lord hear our prayer...** 

God of all our moments, of our days and our nights, you speak and you act in the world around us, not only to call all people to you, but also to direct and guide us in the way of healing and wholeness. Awaken us Lord, to hear what you would say to us. Help us to open our ears, our eyes, and our hearts to your presence. Help us to know when it is your voice we are hearing and it when it is our prejudices and desires to which we are paying heed.... Lord hear our prayer...

Lord, we pray that your church may rise up with renewed commitment in answer to your call, that your people may be instruments of your grace and love.... **Lord hear our prayer....** 

We pray for those who consider themselves inadequate and dismiss or avoid your calling in their lives. Give them a new vision, a vision in which you are their strength and their hope... **Lord hear our prayer...** 

We pray for those who, in answering your call, must leave the known for the unknown, the oasis for the desert, the comfortable for the uncertain. Grant them courage and steadfast faith... **Lord hear our prayer...** 

We pray too, today, O Lord, for those in want and need – for those of us and of the larger community who suffer in body or in soul. We remember before you...[various intercessions] Lord, hear our pray.....

Loving Father, bless us all with an abundant faith, a fruitful ministry, a joyful life. Bless us and all those who gather together to continue the work of Jesus, who came to heal, save, and deliver us all, and who taught us to pray as one family, saying... **Our Father....** 

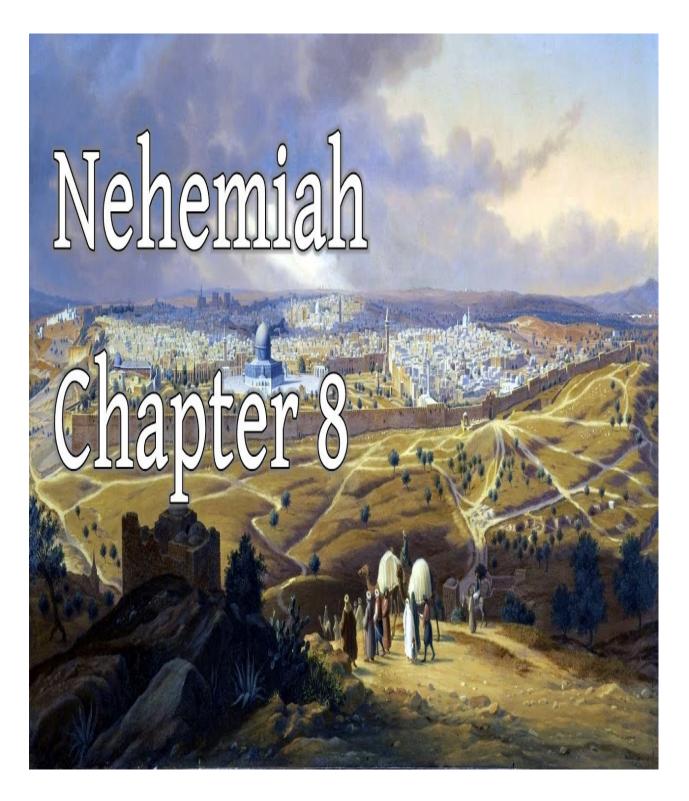
Sermon "It's Not Really About the Wall" Neh. 8-12

\*Hymn "Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts" GTG#494

**Sending Forth** 

**Postlude** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" J. W. Walther

**Benediction** 



# First Presbyterian Church

February 27, 2022

As the chimes ring in the worship hour, we invite you to enter a time of personal reflection and congregational worship. \*Please stand as you are able.

**Chiming of the Hour** 

**Words of Welcome** 

Prelude "Now Thank We All Our God"

G.F. Kaufman

**Invocation (Unison)** 

Eternal God, whose signature we see, if we dare to look, in the creation of the universe, help us this hour to look and to listen for Your handwriting and Your voice in this place, among these people. Connect our contemporary praise to Your timeless rhythms, Your ageless melodies, Your everlasting joyful noise.

Guide us now to focus upon You, knowing that in You, our distractions become new possibilities for action. Breathe life into our singing, our praying, our speaking, our listening, our touching, that all these activities might become more than they are. In our worship we reach out to You, O God, knowing that You have already enfolded us in Your arms. In Jesus, we pray. Amen.

~ posted on My Redeemer Lives website. <a href="http://www.myredeemerlives.com/prayers.html">http://www.myredeemerlives.com/prayers.html</a>

**Call to Worship** 

(based on Psalm 19)

The heavens are telling the glory of God May our worship reflect God's glory.
The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

May we see each other as the handiwork of God.

Let our prayer and praise, our singing and proclamation project the love of God.

We commune with Christians around the world, with Christians throughout time.

With Christians across geography and across time,

Let us worship!

\*Hymn "How Great Thou Art"

**Prayer of Confession** 

(inspired by Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10)

GTG#625

We confess to you, Gracious God,
that too often we look on your law as a burden, not a gift;
an inconvenience, not a blessing.
Rather than seeing your love revealed,
we feel our own guilt magnified.
Instead of rejoicing in your good news,
we focus on our own shortcomings.
Turn us around, Redeemer,
and do not let our fears have dominion over us.
Enlighten us, so that our words and deeds may be acceptable to you.
Amen.

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

God is slow to anger and quick to forgive.

We are forgiven, loved, and accepted.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen

\*Response "Gloria Patri"

## A Time for Young Disciples

Kent Shelton

GTG#581

## **Offering Prayer/Collection**

Gracious and loving God, the giver of all things, we thank you that we are able to come to you in joy and celebration. We offer ourselves and all that we have to you knowing that all of what we have comes from you. Bless these offerings that they may be used to enlarge your kingdom. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

#### Anthem

## \*Doxology

## **Prayers of the People**

Eternal God, you are the maker of us all, and we are your creation, people formed in your image, as individuals, as community; formed and fed and furnished with understanding of who you are and of who and whose we are. We worship you today in recognition of your calling, of your communicating, (Continues)

<sup>—</sup>from *Jesus Sets the Table*, resources by the United Church of Christ, posted on their **Worship Ways** website.

### **Serving Today**

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Broschart Minister of Word and Sacrament

Ashley Stanley-Robey Interim Music Director

Patricia Howell Interim Organist

David Clark Sound Becky Meadema Liturgist

Kent Shelton Time for Young Disciples
Ray Beale Security, side door & offering

Susan Mathena Greeter

Karan Johnson & Ava Barrett Sunday School

#### **Announcements**

Admin Committee will meet today at 9:00 a.m.

CE Committee will meet Monday February 28th at 4:30 p.m. in Westminster.

Property Committee will meet Tuesday March 1st at 7 p.m.

Our first Lenten meal will be Wednesday March 2nd at 6:00 p.m., please use the bulletin insert to sign up. Team 1 will be in charge.

Session will meet Tuesday March 8th at 7 p.m.

The flowers that enhance our worship are given in honor of Judy Small, my loving sister, by Jackie Rochford.

We welcome you to First Presbyterian Church.

Our office hours are Monday—Thursday 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

We can be found on the web at www.fpcdanville.com or on Facebook.

Please call us at 434-792-7822