

Our Mission

To Know Christ and To Make Him Known

WORSHIP NOTES

Welcome to today's worship service. We are delighted that you are here. If you are visiting, we invite you to join by profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, by reaffirmation of faith, or by transfer. Please speak to the pastor after the service.

SERVING TODAY

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Broschart	Minister of Word and Sacrament
Ashley Stanley-Robey	Music Director
Patricia Taylor	Organist
Sam Meadema	Sound
Becky Meadema	Liturgist
Jackie Rochford	Security, Side Door, Offering
TBD	Greeter

First Presbyterian Church

July 16, 2023

11 a.m.

The words "THE TRUTH" are displayed in a stylized, 3D block font. Each letter is white with a black outline and a slight shadow, giving it a paper-cut or cutout appearance. The letters are arranged in two rows: "THE" on top and "TRUTH" on the bottom. The background is a dark, textured grey.

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OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to Noon

A Service for the Worship of God

GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

As you enter the sanctuary please end your conversations and respect those worshippers who seek quiet time for prayer and meditation. Please silence all electronic devices. If you need a hearing assistance device, please request one from the usher. Remaining seated is as worshipful a posture as standing. Please worship in a way that is comfortable for you.

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Peace in My Soul"

L. Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let the whole earth praise the Lord! Let the mountains and hills proclaim God's handiwork! Let the seas roar and the waves crash in symphonies of praise! Let all creation sing God's new song of love!

People: Praise be to God who has created and is creating anew! Praise be to God who re-creates God's love in us each day!

INVOCATION**Leader:** Loving, creative God, we praise and bless you for your mighty acts of creation. As we gather here this day we hear your message of power and love through the witness of Jesus Christ as he prepared his disciples for his departure. He gave to them the words of encouragement about living in your love, and through that love being witnesses to the whole world of your peace and hope. Be with us this day, Lord. Open our hearts and minds to receive your word. AMEN.

HYMN

"Sing of God Made Manifest"

GTG#156

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Song for a Summer Afternoon"

The music department at First Presbyterian Church invites you to join us for an afternoon recital of voice, piano, and trombone music. "Songs for a Summer Afternoon" will be held Sunday, July 16th at 2:00pm in Overbey fellowship hall. Singer Mack Williams will present several tenor and lyric baritone selections from European and American folk song literature. Our music director, Ashley Stanley-Robey, will accompany at the piano. Trombonist and baritone singer Greg Robey and bass singer Ray Hayes will share some African American Spirituals. All the performers will join in a gospel quartet. Come enjoy the music of John McCormack, Heinrich Scheutz, Harry T. Burleigh, and H.C. Boyer.

There will be an ice cream social immediately afterwards. The recital and refreshments are free and open to the public. There is no cost, and all are welcome. Please bring your family, neighbors, and friends!

TUESDAY (7/17) Ladies dinner out 5:30 place TBA

“The Love of the Truth”

Written by R.H. for the New York City Young People’s CD

Refrain: Lord, we receive the love of the truth,
in an age of deep confusion.
Refusing the lie, Your truth we will buy.
We’ll treasure and cling to You.

I will not call the bitter sweet, the dark as light,
I will not eat the idols’ and the demons’ food.
I choose to only love the truth. (Refrain)
Lord Jesus, You’re reality.

Your word brings light and life to me.
Renew my mind and heal my sight.
Be all my musing day and night! (Refrain)

Lord, in Your church we come again,
Beneath an open, crystal heav’n,
Enlightened, constituted to
Be built a pillar of the truth. (Refrain)

CALL TO CONFESSION

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sin, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us offer our confessions to God –

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgiving God, in a world filled with so much pain, we confess that we often shut our eyes to keep from seeing things as they truly are. Grant us the strength to face the reality of our world, and give us the courage to bring Your light to those who walk in darkness. Open our eyes to our own misunderstandings, our own failures, and our own faults, God, lead us in the footsteps of Jesus, who reveals Your glory through His life, His teachings, and His love. Help us see others as You see them. In the holy Name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God has remembered God’s steadfast love to all the people. We are healed and called to again be God’s beloved children and witnesses. Receive that healing love and share the good news with all you meet, that God is love and in God there is no darkness or fear. AMEN.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us, the children of God, stand and greet each other with cupped hands filled with God’s blessings and remain standing for the “Gloria Patri”.

RESPONSE

“Gloria Patri”

*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.*

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

In gratitude for all we have received, we offer our lives back to God — we share our time, our skills, our money and in so doing, we say “yes” to God’s invitation to join in Your Kingdom building work here on earth. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

OFFERTORY

"Walk in Jerusalem, Jus' Like John"
 African American Spiritual, arr. H.T. Burleigh
 Greg Robey, trombonist

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
 Praise Him all creatures here below
 Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**HEAR THE WORD OF GOD****PRAYER THROUGH SONG**

"The Love of the Truth"

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 23:1–6, John 18:28–19:16a

Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the Lord. Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the Lord "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Through your word, O Lord, open our hearts to hear you speak to us in a fresh way. Open us up to the message of your love and acceptance of all people. May the seeds of your word take root in our lives so that we might truly become part of your Beloved Community, which encompasses all your beloved children, wherever they may be. Amen.

SERMON

"Bearing Witness to THE Truth"

RESPONSE TO THE WORD**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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.

HYMN:

"I Love thy Kingdom, Lord"

GTG# 310

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP**POSTLUDE**

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

arr. B Greer

BENEDICTION