



HOMECOMING
at First Presbyterian Church
2021

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 15, 2021

GATHERING

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *Mighty God: Your Son Jesus came to comfort the fearful. May we never be afraid, but knowing you are with us, take heart, and faithfully serve Christ the Lord. In His name, we pray. Amen.*

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

God of Grace and God of Glory
Dr. Terry McRoberts

arr. by Wagner

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: What does the Lord require of you?
Many: *To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.*
One: What does God command of us?
Many: *To love God with all our heart,
and all our soul,
and all our mind,
and all our strength,
and to love our neighbor as ourselves.*
One: God does not call us to ease or to comfort.
Many: *But to presence, and abundance, and grace in our struggle.*
One: Let us worship the God who believes in us, and trusts in us, and abides with us.
Many: *Let us worship the God who will ask much of us,
but will be beside us every step of the way.*

*HYMN OF PRAISE: 63 *The Lord is God*

AZMON

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. John White

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Rev. John White

As we gather together today O God, many of us are tossed to and fro on waves of fear and doubt. Many of us are driven here and there by winds of ambition and pride. Many of us are hopelessly lost in a storm of confusion and guilt. Forgive us we pray, for our weakness and sinfulness. Help us to know your forgiveness in the depths of our hearts, and to accept ourselves as loving and love-worthy. Come, Lord Jesus, and bless our worship with the gift of your presence, that we might find peace for our anxious hearts, and meaning for our troubled lives. Through Christ we pray, Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Rev. John White

One: Persistently, patiently, lovingly,
God pours out grace into our lives,
Healing our brokenness, forgiving our sin.
ALL: *Loved, we are sent to love;
Forgiven, we are freed to forgive;
Graced, we can offer our gifts to everyone we meet.
Thanks be to God. Amen.*

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** (*Hymn #581*)

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.*

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

ACT OF PRAISE

Great is Thy Faithfulness

arr. Raney

Piano and organ duet: Helen Redding, Dr. Terry McRoberts

COMMISSIONING OF TEACHERS

(*see insert*)

HYMN RESPONSE: 298 *Lord, You Give the Great Commission* (*stanza 1 only*)

ABBOT'S LEIGH

THE WORD

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

Rev. Courtney Bowen & Molly Richardson

*Graylynn Richardson, Rayanna Williams, John Patrick Dollar, Jr., Finis Shoaf, Connor Donnell,
Jo'Hannah Ross, Luke Thompson*

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Libby Smith

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. John White

***HYMN: 487** *These Treasured Children*

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. John White

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Deuteronomy 6:4-9
(Page 163)*

Rev. Courtney Bowen

NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Mark 12:28-31
(Page 49)*

Rev. John White

SERMON

“A Blast from the Past”

Rev. John White

RESPONSE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** From *A Declaration of Faith (in unison)*

Rev. Courtney Bowen

Jesus is our living Lord.

Jesus was dead and buried, but God raised him from the dead.

We are certain that Jesus lives.

He lives as God with us, touching all of human life with the presence of God.

He lives as one of us with God.

*Because he shares our humanity and has bound us to himself in love,
we have an advocate in the innermost life of God.*

We declare that Jesus is Lord.

His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life.

Jesus is Lord!

He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end.

Even now he is Lord!

*(At this time, please find the red friendship pad located toward the center isle on each pew,
sign it, pass it down your row and back again, taking note of those who worship with you.)*

OFFERING

Rev. Courtney Bowen

OFFERTORY

Prelude on MARYTON

by Young

Dr. Terry McRoberts

*Doxology (Tune: 591)

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Dedicatory Prayer

Rev. Courtney Bowen

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

***HYMN 507** *Come to the Table of Grace* (verses 1-5)

TABLE OF GRACE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. John White and

Rev. Courtney Bowen

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

CLOSING PRAYER

SENDING

***CHARGE + BENEDICTION**

Rev. John White

POSTLUDE

Postlude-Cantique
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Dubois