

St. Stephen Presbyterian Church

Fort Worth, Texas

Service for The Lord's Day

10th Sunday after Pentecost

August 1, 2021 – 10:00 am

ENTERING THE PRESENCE OF GOD

PRELUDE: *Prélude modal* (1934)

Jean Langlais (1907–1991)

PEAL OF THE TOWER BELLS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.” Let us worship God!

† HYMN: 667 *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

LAUDES DOMINI

PRAYER OF ADORATION *(kneeling or bowing down)*

Leader: O magnify the Lord with me.

People: And let us enjoy God's name forever

All: God, you have sent the light of your life to all people, to give us the grace of the light of faith, so that we may have life and have it abundantly. We pray that you will open our eyes to Christ in whom you have made manifest your love of all of us. He is a word of light, the way to life for everyone who lives in this world. He is the Son who lives with you for all eternity. Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: How can you want us to fall, God, and not to get up again? How can you want us to stray and not to find rest? Do not let us be caught in a web of confusion, but send out your light and your faithfulness to meet us; send us your Son, Jesus Christ, your care for this world. Let us confess our sins.

All: Why, God, are we divided; why are we broken? Can you not cure and save us as you saved our brother, Jesus, from the power of death? With him we call upon you—make us whole again and restore us in honor, renew the shape of this world against every sin and cover us with your light, your Holy Spirit...
(silent confession)

KYRIE

Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Christ, have mer-cy up on us. Christ have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God, you are merciful to us in all our doings, good and bad. You do not insist on your right but acquit us and accept us—everything is possible with you. Give us the spirit to follow you. Make us merciful to each other so that the world may know who you are: nothing but love, our Father, God.

Leader: In Christ Jesus, we are forgiven, made new, and set free! The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Please stand and greet your neighbors as a sign of Christ’s love, saying “The peace of Christ be with you.”

† **GLORIA PATRI 580**

SCOTTISH

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Mitch Overton

LESSON FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT: Proverbs 3:1–12

Pew Bible OT p. 585

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 14

Setting by Royce Eckhardt

LESSON FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: 1 Corinthians 1:26–31

Pew Bible NT p. 26

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

† **LESSON FROM THE GOSPEL: Luke 19:1–10**

Pew Bible NT p. 82

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

All children 5th grade and younger are invited to follow Miss Beth who will lead them to the Chapel for Godly Play and return them to the sanctuary during the hymn that follows the sermon.

SERMON: “Power and Position”

Rev. Dr. Warner Bailey, Parish Associate

SILENT REFLECTION

“[M]oral knowledge should give us a sense of identity, a sense of ideals to live up to and an appreciation of the values that matter most to us—equality or prosperity or freedom....[T]hese are shared stories, this shared knowledge should help us discover a shared destiny and our shared affection for one another....If a country can’t tell narratives in which everybody finds an honorable place, then righteous rage will drive people toward tribal narratives that tear it apart.”

– *New York Times* columnist David Brooks, “How to Destroy Truth,” July 2, 2021.

† **HYMN: 418 Softy and Tenderly Jesus is Calling**

SOFTY AND TENDERLY

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – 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 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.

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Churchwide Nominating Committee

Marilyn Jones

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: A Gaelic Blessing (1978)

John Rutter (b. 1945)

*Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,
Deep peace of the shining stars to you,
Deep peace of the gentle night to you,
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you,
Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you.*

† DOXOLOGY 606

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

The Lord’s Supper is open to all who seek to know God through Jesus Christ, regardless of religious background. Safe containers for the elements of bread and wine are located in the pew racks. There are two seals: one on the very top reveals a wafer and the one beneath it opens the grape juice. When you receive the elements, eat the bread and drink the cup. Set the used containers in the pew racks when you are done.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise. *(prayer continues)*

SANCTUS

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er God of might, heav-en and
earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na in the high- est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high- est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Leader: Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.
Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(kneeling or bowing down)*

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS:

Following the Words of Institution, when the pastor says, "The Gifts of God for the people of God.", please partake of your individual communion container.

After communion, please observe this moment of silence.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR COMMUNION

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul!

All: And all that is within me, bless God's holy name!

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul!

All: And forget not all God's benefits!

We have heard your word, O God, and have broken bread with each other. May this be a sign for us that you are very near, that we are your people, nourished and loved by you. Never forsake us and be the light around us and our firm ground, and even more, be our future, Our Father. Amen.

SENDING

† HYMN: 754 *Help Us Accept Each Other*

BARONITA

† BENEDICTION

† PEAL OF THE TOWER BELLS

POSTLUDE: *Fanfare* (1952)

John Cook (1918-1984)

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God by the Chancel Guild.



Rev. Dr. Fritz Ritsch, *Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Warner Bailey, *Parish Associate*
Jordan Smith, *Organist & Director of Music Ministries*
Beth Fultz, *Director of Christian Education*