



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

June 15, 2008
Eleven o'clock

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE GATHERING

The service of worship begins with the prelude; quiet is requested as you enter the sanctuary and prepare for worship. In the spirit of Christian fellowship, we invite you to wear a name tag which is available from the greeters. As a community that prays with and for one another, we invite you to share your joys and concerns by using the blue cards available from the ushers and in the welcome pad folders. Please place the prayer cards in the offering for inclusion in the Pastoral Prayer. Those parts of the Service of Worship in which the congregation participates in word or song are noted in bold type.

** Stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

Berceuse

Cochereau

* HYMN 488

The God of Abraham Praise

Leoni

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let hearts and lives be filled with love for God

People: For God hears our cries and answers our prayers.

Leader: How shall we respond to all God's goodness toward us?

People: Let us testify to the love and faithfulness of God.

Leader: We shall freely and faithfully serve you, O God

People: May God be praised forever!

INTROIT

R. Goode

How amiable is thy dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts! My soul longeth yea, fainteth for the courts of the Lord. my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house; they will always be praising thee.

RECOGNITION OF OUR CHOIR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please use the welcome pad in the blue folder at the end of the pew. Record your presence. Pass it back, noticing who is worshiping with you. When the pad has been returned, please tear off the sheet and place it in the offering plate.)

MINUTE FOR VACATION ADVENTURES

Carol Schulzrinne

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we remember that Sarah laughed at God promising to bring what seemed to be an impossible future to birth. Eventually, Sarah laughed again - this time with joy. We confess that we often feel so harassed and helpless that we fail to see ourselves as people capable of carrying out your ministry in this day and age. But wonderful things can be achieved through us and there are so many people who are desperately seeking wholeness. Forgive us our disbelief at the thought of Jesus depending on us to be the bearers of hope and proclaimers of the gospel to a world in need. Jesus had compassion on the crowds who were harassed and helpless and so he commissioned the disciples to carry out the same ministry that he did. Gracious and merciful God, forgive our weakness and remind us that your love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. May your love transform us so that we see people through the compassionate eyes of Christ and minister to them in his name and for his sake. Amen.

PRAYERS OF SILENT AND INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: The God who calls us is the God who created us; the God who formed us is the God who forgives us. We are God's new creation. Believe the Good News!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymnal No. 579 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.*

* EXCHANGE OF PEACE

Leader: Let us open our hearts to one another as Christ has
 opened his heart to us, and God will be glorified.

People: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

(Exchange Signs of Reconciliation and the Peace of Christ with your
neighbor - e.g., *“The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.”*
Response - *“And also with you.”*)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

+ *Children and Youth, 3 year olds through 8th grade, meet for
Summer Church School, High School Youth remain for worship +*

* HYMN 411 Arise, Your Light Is Come! Festal Song

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON Genesis 18:1-15

ANTHEM All Things Bright and Beautiful John Rutter
The text may be found at No. 267 in the Hymnal

SECOND LESSON Matthew 9:35-10:20

SERMON “A Generous Harvest” Rev. Richard S. Hong

OFFERTORY

Psalm 150

Cèsar Franck

*Hallelujah. O praise ye the Lord, In his sanctuary;
Praise ye the Lord in the firmament of His pow'r.
Praise ye Him for His mighty acts,
Praise ye Him according to His majesty.
Praise ye Him with the sound of the trumpet,
Praise ye Him with the psaltery and harp.
Praise ye Him with the timbrel. Praise ye Him with dance,
Praise Him with the organ and stringed instruments.
Praise ye Him upon the loud cymbals.
Praise ye Him upon the high sounding cymbals.
Let everything that hath breath, praise the Lord,
Yea, praise ye the Lord. Hallelujah!*

* THE DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

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

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.

THE SENDING OUT

* HYMN 429 Lord, You Give the Great Commission Abbot's Leigh

* BENEDICTION

CHORAL AMEN The Lord Bless You and Keep You Peter Lutkin

POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune in C David N. Johnson

(Our worship ends with the conclusion of the Postlude. It is the custom of our church to remain seated. Those who wish to leave may do so.)

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TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 18:1-15 (NRSV)

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. ⁹They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ¹⁰Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. ¹¹Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. ¹²So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" ¹³The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' ¹⁴Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." ¹⁵But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

Matthew 9:35-10:20 (NRSV)

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, "The

harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” ¹⁰ Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. ²These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. ⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ ⁸Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. ⁹Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, ¹⁰no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. ¹¹Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. ¹²As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town. ¹⁶“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; ¹⁸and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; ²⁰for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.