



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 30, 2009

Eleven o'clock

TWENTY-SECOND 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. 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 An Occasional Prelude Charles V. Stanford

* CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 15):

Leader: O Lord, who may abide in your tent?

People: Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Leader: Those who do what is right and speak the truth from their heart

People: Those who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends

Leader: Those who honor those who fear the Lord

People: Those who do these things shall never be moved.

* HYMN 356 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing Nettleton

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 worshipping with you. When the pad has been returned, please tear off the sheet and place it in the offering plate.)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Members of the Mission Committee

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we come before You knowing that there have been times when we have allowed our personal agendas to take precedence over reaching out to others. We confess that we have put off being more active "doers of the word" to some later time that never seems to come. We have only half-listened to those who are crying out to be fully heard. Gracious and merciful God, forgive us for our past faults and help us in the present and future to make ourselves more available to the hurting world that surrounds us - the world that begins on our doorsteps. Equip us to be patient and compassionate listeners, proclaiming the gospel sensitively and lovingly. By the Holy Spirit may we be strengthened to be fruitful and active witnesses to Jesus in all we do and say. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

PRAYERS OF SILENT AND INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Friends, believe and proclaim the Good News: in Jesus Christ, love breaks through hatred, hope breaks through despair, life breaks through death.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and set free.
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.”*)

* HYMN 267 All Things Bright and Beautiful Royal Oak

+ *Children and Youth may leave for their Class in the Chapel.* +

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON Song of Solomon 2:8-13

ANTHEM Be Thou My Vision *arr. Pooler*
SUMMER CHOIR

SECOND LESSON James 1:17-27

SERMON “Mirror, Mirror” Rev. Richard S. Hong

OFFERTORY Come to Me *Ellingbone*
SUMMER CHOIR

* 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 306

Fairest Lord Jesus

Crusaders' Hymn

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The Emperor's Fanfare

Soler

(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

Song of Solomon 2:8-13 (NRSV)

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. ⁹My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice. ¹⁰My beloved speaks and says to me: “Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; ¹¹for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. ¹²The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. ¹³The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

James 1:17-27 (NRSV)

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God’s righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. ²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. ²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.