

First Presbyterian Church

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Celebrating our history, we look toward our future.



The Order of Worship
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 28, 2018

WELCOME. *We are delighted to have you with us this morning!
Following worship, please join us for fellowship and refreshments.*

Large Print Hymnals and Children's Activity Bags
are available from the Usher.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission – Heifer Project Collection Susan Peacock

***Call to Worship**

One: We gather here at this time and in this place
to worship God.

**All: We have come seeking comfort, inspiration,
community, and insight.**

One: We have come to open ourselves to the power
of God's presence in our midst.

**All: We have come to offer up the seasons and the turnings
in our lives, and to ask God's help in our learning
and in our growing.**

One: We have come to give thanks for our joys,
to lift up our sorrows,
and to seek God's response to our prayers.

All: Come, let us worship God!

***Hymn #475** *"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*

***Prayer of Confession:**

One: We are people of worth and value.
When we honestly acknowledge the shame and guilt of our
lives, there is a possibility of transformation.
Let us pray, putting our trust in the accepting grace of
Christ.

All: Gracious God, we acknowledge and confess in your presence

**the smallness of our love,
the narrowness of our concern,
and the denial of our true humanity.**

**Through our careless hands have slipped
opportunities not taken,
people not cared for,
and days not celebrated.**

**We are ashamed and sorry for the ways of our
unfaithfulness, and we pray for reassurance and
forgiveness.**

One: Our prayers continue in silence.... Amen.

***The Assurance of Pardon**

One: The God who challenges us
is also the God who encourages us.

**All: The God who confronts us
is also the God who accepts us.**

One: Be assured that God is with us even now,
accepting, guiding, and forgiving.

**All: In Jesus Christ, by grace through faith, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

***Celebration of Our Pardon**

Hymn *Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New*

Words and music by John Bell, Iona Community

*Behold, behold, I make all things new,
Beginning with you and starting from today.
Behold, behold, I make all things new,
My promise is true for I am Christ the way.*

***The Peace**

One: Since God has forgiven us in Jesus Christ,

All: Let us forgive one another.

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the signs of peace with one another.

*You are invited to greet those around you
with words and signs of God's reconciling peace.*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings: Luke 18:1-8 and II Timothy 3:14-4:5

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“Persistent Prayer”

The Rev. Dr. Steve Robertson

***Hymn #821**

“My Life Flows On”

***Affirmation of Faith**

- Apostles Creed (traditional)

**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.**

Reception of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory

***Offertory Response**

Hymn #710

“We Lift Our Voices”

*We lift our voices; We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You, We are an offering*

*Lord use our voices; Lord use our hands
Lord use our lives they are Yours
We are an offering; We are an offering*

*All that we have; All that we are
All that we hope to be, We give to You, We give to You*

*We lift our voices; We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You, We are an offering*

***Offertory Prayer**

The Pastoral Prayer

We will begin and close our prayer time with the prayer song.

Prayer Song Hymn #471 “O Lord, Hear My Prayer”

*O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me.*

*O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.*

The Lord’s Prayer (Traditional)

**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.

*Hymn #465 *“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”*

*Charge and Blessing

*Response

Hymn #546 *“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”*

*Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing;
Fill our hearts with joy and peace.
Let us each, thy love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.
Oh, refresh us, oh, refresh us,
Trav’ling thru this wilderness.*

Postlude

Prayer Requests/Prayer Chain: Prayer requests can be written on the blue cards found on the table at the back of the Fellowship Hall. Pass the card to the pastor during the Passing of the Peace.