

Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



JULY 19, 2020

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 2408 N. NAVARRO ST. | VICTORIA, TEXAS 77901

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
July 19, 2020
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Proper 11

Prelude: “For the Lord Hath Comforted His People”

T. Ridley Prentice

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: People of God, let us gather
to worship and praise God’s name
All: **I give thanks to you, O God,
with my whole heart.
I will glorify your name forever!**
One: For great is your steadfast love for me.
All: **You have delivered my soul from the depths.**
One: God says, “Know that I am with you and
will keep you wherever you go.”

Opening Hymn: “O God Our Help in Ages Past”

No. 210

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Sower of the Field,
continue to be gracious with us
that we may ripen into the children of God’s realm
and live with you forever,
shining like the sun
in God’s heavenly home. Amen.

Invitation to Confession

Trusting in God’s mercy,
let us acknowledge to ourselves and each other
those ways we fall short
from what God intends for us,
all of which God already knows.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Merciful and gracious God,
where we are in bondage to sin, set us free;
restore us as your children
and joint heirs with Christ.
You are our hope.
Lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison (*singing in unison*)

**Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Assurance of Pardon

My fellow children of God, do not fear,
for our God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.
God's hand shall lead us and hold us fast.
So be reconciled with God and at peace with one another.
Believe in God, Friends!
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Gloria Patri (*singing in unison*)

**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.**

Prayer for Illumination

Harvesting God,
as we listen to your Word,
by your Holy Spirit
lead our hearts in the way everlasting.

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 86:11-17

P. 544 in the Old Testament

Teach me your way, O LORD,
that I may walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.
I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
and I will glorify your name forever.
For great is your steadfast love toward me;
you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.
O God, the insolent rise up against me;
a band of ruffians seeks my life,
and they do not set you before them.
But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.
Turn to me and be gracious to me;
give your strength to your servant;
save the child of your serving girl.

(continued on next page)

First Scripture Reading: (continued)

Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame,
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Congregational Hymn: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

No. 276

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

P.P. 14-15 in the New Testament

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

Sermon: The Parable of the Wheat and Tares

Rev. Jim DeMent

Matthew 13:30: Let both of them grow together until the harvest; ...

Silence and stillness

Congregational Hymn: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

No. 379

Affirmation of Faith (*unison*)

The Creed of the United Church of Canada

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

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Affirmation of Faith *(continued)*

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

No. 460



We have reproduced below the lyrics of the hymns that Robert Wyatt will be playing for this "Virtual Worship Service." All the hymns below are either in the public domain or have been reproduced, under license, from *The Presbyterian Hymnal* (Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville: 1990). We encourage you to read and sing along at home, as Robert plays the hymns he has selected with comfort, hope, strength, and courage in, now, the Season after Pentecost. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1

Verse 3

Verse 2

Verse 4

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home:

A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received its frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly, forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, Creator,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain:

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

Holy God, we praise your name;
Lord of all, we bow before You;
All on earth your scepter claim,
All in heaven above adore You.
Infinite Your vast domain,
Everlasting is Your reign.

All apostles join the strain
As Your sacred name they hallow;
Prophets swell the glad refrain,
And the blessed martyrs follow,
And from morn to set of sun,
Through the church the song goes on.

Hark, the glad celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising;
Cherubim and seraphim,
In unceasing chorus praising,
Fill the heavens with sweet accord:
Holy, holy, holy Lord.

Holy Father, Holy Son,
Holy Spirit: Three we name You,
While in essence only One;
Undivided God we claim You,
And adoring bend the knee
While we own this mystery.



Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Kathryn Amsler	Gloria Aouelle	Ruth Ann Barnard	Roxanna Hauschild
Claire Heger	Leonard "Mac" McCameron	Roland Merrill	Rickey Ramseur
Nathan Galvan (Son of Leila Galvan)	Angie Longoria (Kids for Christ Parent)	Julianna Longoria (Kids for Christ Disciple)	Samantha Skaggs (Niece of Roxanna and Henry Hauschild)
Billy Ruddock (Prior FPC Member)	John & Jere Swoboda (Prior FPC Members)	Eugenia (Jean) Whitaker (Mother of Robert Whitaker)	Carol Wisdom (Daughter of Lea Lenz)

**For caregiving concerns—please contact:
Jack Kleinecke (361. 212.3229); or Gayla Whitaker (361. 935.0950)**

FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service

**All activities suspended,
pending further notice,
due to public health concerns.**

**FPC Victoria Servant Leadership
Session Members**

Jim DeMent, Moderator
Jack Kleinecke, Clerk of Session
Billy Leske, Building & Grounds
Dawn Neel, Christian Education
Linda Patterson, Worship
Marsha Ricottilli, Asst. Clerk, Mission & Outreach
Susan Salinas, Caregiving & Fellowship
Jim Stokes, Finance
Gayla Whitaker, Caregiving & Fellowship
Bill Wilkinson, Personnel

Other

Paula Leske, Presbyterian Women
Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School
Shelley Hartman, Dawn Neel, and Helen Resendez,
Kids for Christ, Vacation Bible School

Bulletin Cover

Although almost identical in appearance, the yields of wheat (bread wheat; *triticum aestivum*) and tares (bearded darnel; *lolium temulentum*) could not be more different. Wheat nourishes and feeds us; tares are intoxicating and poisonous. One gives life; the other can kill.

In the picture on our Bulletin cover, the tare on the right is light and lacks substance, but the wheat on the left is heavy with grain. Some see symbolism in the fact that the tare stands straight up and proud while the wheat bows from the weight of its grain in humility. From the perspective of Jesus' parable, the most interesting aspect of both plants is that they grow together, side by side in the same field. With intertwined roots and almost indistinguishable stalks, the good plant and the evil plant are sorted at the harvest.

Clergy, Music, and Administration

Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor
Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster
Tasha Wolf, Office Administrator

Office Hours

Monday — Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
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