

Welcome and Announcements: January 10, 2021

Pastor Kerra will be taking some time off next week (Jan 11-17). Please call Susan or an elder if you need general assistance. Or in an emergency, the best way to reach Kerra is a call or text as she will be giving her computer a needed break also. Seminary intern, Sam Zeigler will be preaching on January 17.

Presbyterian Women will meet at the church (Fellowship Hall) on Tuesday January 12 at 11 a.m. Masks and physical distancing are required.

Prelude: * Excerpts from *Cantabile in G* – Filippo Capocci

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GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

Call to Confession (Sam):

Jesus said: Ask and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

Friends, God knows our needs before we ask, and in our asking prepares us to receive the gift of grace. Let us open our lives to God's healing presence, seeking peace with God and reconciliation with our neighbors. Let us be mindful not only of personal evil but also of our communal sins of family, class, race and nation. Let us confess to God whatever has wounded us or brought injury to others, that we may receive mercy and become for each other ministers of God's grace. (BRIEF TIME OF SILENCE)

Prayer of Confession (Kerra):

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

Assurance of Forgiveness (Sam):

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep us in eternal life. Amen.

Opening Hymn: *Fairest Lord Jesus*

1. Fairest Lord Jesus,
Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God to earth come down,
Thee will I cherish,
Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

2. Fair is the sunshine,
Fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling, starry host:
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer,
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

Fairest Lord Jesus, as in The Presbyterian Hymnal, © 1990 Westminster John Knox Press.
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GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Psalm 29; Mark 1:4-13

Psalm 29

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
² Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy splendor.
³ The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over mighty waters.
⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.
⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
⁶ He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
⁷ The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
⁸ The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
⁹ The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare;
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"
¹⁰ The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
¹¹ May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Mark 1:4-13

⁴ John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Baptism of Jesus

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Temptation of Jesus

¹² And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Sermon: I Love You More than You can Imagine – Now Go Away

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of the People and 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.

Offering

Response: *Doxology*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow, As in The Presbyterian Hymnal, © 1990 Westminster John Knox Press. Public Domain. CCLI #[20516410](#) Size A, Streaming #[20516427](#) Size A.

SENDING US OUT TO BE GOD'S WORD IN THE WORLD

Closing Hymn: *The Church's One Foundation*

1. The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation by water and the word;
From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

2. Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

The Church's One Foundation as in The Presbyterian Hymnal, © 1990 Westminster John Knox Press. Words: Samuel John Stone, 1866, alt. Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864. Used by permission. CCLI #[20516410](#) Size A, Streaming #[20516427](#) Size A.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: * Excerpts from *Offertoire in C* – Orlando Mansfield

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