

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



September 12, 2021

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Blessed Assurance

Arr. Josh Evanovich

Ann Long and Hamilton Stoddard, Piano Duet

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME

Missy Coulter

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We are called to follow Jesus.

People: **But following Jesus isn't easy.**

Leader: No, it will demand our dedication and our energy.

People: **It will change our whole lives.**

Leader: Come, all of you. Come and learn of the Lord Jesus.

People: **Lord, we come, seeking your wisdom and your guidance. Amen**

*** HYMN**

Rejoice the Lord is King

HYFRYDOL

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!

Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven;

The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

And gather all the saints to their eternal home.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, it is easy for us to say that we will follow you; and then turn our backs and act as though our commitment to you does not mean anything to us. Jesus challenges us to take up our crosses, and when we don't understand what that means, we just shrug and turn away. Forgive us for our lack of commitment and faith. Give us courage to be disciples and enable us to joyfully proclaim your healing mercies and your transformational love. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

(Silent Reflection)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Sing Twice)

LOE DI ÍSÁ

Jesus knows the inmost heart: nothing can be hidden.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: With gentleness, God speaks to us; with graciousness, God forgives us; with joy, God embraces us.

People: **With our lips, we praise God; with our words, we thank God; with our silence, we find God in our hearts. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*** GLORIA PATRI**

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Joel Long

Following the Children's Moment, children preschool through 2nd grade are invited to Children in Worship. Parents can pick up their children from the third floor after worship.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:13-16

Cameron Coulter

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 8:27-38

Rev. Joel Long

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter

answered, "You are the Messiah." Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him. He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns." Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life^l will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

COMMUNION MEDITATION

"Dying to Know My Purpose"

Rev. Joel Long

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

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.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

In Remembrance

Buryl Red

Chancel Choir with John Michael Osteen, Soloist

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: We give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Call to Giving

Offertory Anthem

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Arr. by David Maddux

Ann Long, Soloist

* Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below. Alleluia. Alleluia.***

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

* Offertory Prayer

*** HYMN**

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

KINGDOM

***For the bread which you have broken, for the wine which you have poured,
For the words which you have spoken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.***

By this promise that you love us, by your gift of peace restored,

By your call to heaven above us, hallow all our lives, O Lord.

*** BENEDICTION**

*** CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

KINGDOM

*In your service, Lord, defend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;
In the world to which you send us let your kingdom come, O Lord.*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Postlude on DIADEMATA

Flor Peeters

*** Please stand as you are able**

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A nursery is provided for children 2 years old and younger in the nursery on the first floor of the Educational Building.



Today's sermon is entitled: ***"Dying To Know My Purpose."*** For the follower of Christ, our life's purpose is linked to the message of the cross. The scriptural text for today's message is Mark 8:34:

*"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself
and take up his cross and follow me."*

W E L C O M E !

We especially welcome those of you who are guests today. We invite you to fill out a Welcome card found in the baskets on the back counters and place it in the offering basket as you leave. We look forward to meeting you. If you have particular questions, please speak to Rev. Long.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Elders: Missy Coulter, JD Dunn
Deacons: Meg Hill, Gary Bratton
Youth Liturgist: Cameron Coulter
Junior Usher: Charlie Coulter

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Teacher: Missy Coulter Volunteer: Kay Smith

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: Caron DuRant, Ann Geddings
Deacons: Chris Somheil, Kimberly Land
Youth Liturgist: Duncan James
Junior Usher: Ligon Ferguson

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Teacher: Karen Ingram Volunteer: Valerie James

"ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS" BEGINS TODAY!

Beginning today and running through October 17, children, 3K – 5th grade, are encouraged to join Ms. Kelly, Ms. Jessica, and friends from 4:00 – 5:00 pm to learn more about the Bible, learn memory verses and sing in the Children's Choir. We will meet in the Chapel each week wearing masks. Parents are asked to drop their children off at the office entrance of the church building. Ms. Kelly will be there to greet you.

YOUTH GROUP BEGINS TODAY!

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm. in the West Building

We strongly encourage wearing masks. Unfortunately, due to the rise in COVID cases, we will not be able to serve food at this time; however, we are truly grateful that we can be together in person. We are super excited about this year and look forward to seeing everyone at Youth Group!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Covenant Place: Bootsie Owens

Home: Suzanna Foley, Bill Scobee, Tom Tindal (John Tindal's Brother),
Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)

Austin, TX: Robert Cain (George Cain's Father)