



# First Presbyterian

## CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God  
September 5, 2021  
The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*\*Indicates an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit as you are able.*

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

TOWER BELLS

PRELUDE

Let Us Break Bread Together

Spiritual; arr. Wood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord of mercy and compassion, be with us this day.

**Open our ears to hear of the healing love of Jesus.**

Remind us that we are also recipients of his compassion.

**Remind us that we are called to bring the same hope and love to others.**

Prepare us for service in His Name.

**Let us worship God.**

\*HYMN No. 298

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy,  
Like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in God's justice,  
Which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows  
Are more felt than up in heaven;  
There is no place where earth's failings  
Have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader  
Than the measures of the mind;  
And the heart of the Eternal  
Is most wonderfully kind.  
If our love were but more faithful,  
We would gladly trust God's Word;  
And our lives reflect thanksgiving  
For the goodness of the Lord.

## WE PREPARE TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Patient Lord, you know us so well. We are fascinated by healing, but we do not understand your compassion. We often try to make deals with you. We say, "Just heal us"; or "Just make things go better"; and then we promise our faithfulness. Forgive us for bargaining with you for your generous grace. Remind us to trust you are working for our healing. And forgive us when we get jealous or upset when you bring healing or restoration into the lives of others. Help us to trust your love for us. Help us to believe that your grace cannot run dry even as it is shared generously with others. It is in Jesus' Name that we pray.**

*Silent Prayer*

**Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God's generous grace.

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

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.**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 7:24-35

SERMON

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel

ANTHEM

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

text: Omer Westendorf  
music: Robert E. Kreuz

You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat;  
Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

As when the shepherd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;  
So when You call Your family, Lord, we follow and rejoice.

Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ outpoured?  
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare our oneness in the Lord?

You give Yourself to us, O Lord; then selfless let us be,  
To serve each other in Your name in truth and charity.

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles, and saints, and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord... With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service. Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Dying, you destroyed our death.**

**Christ is risen. Rising you restored our life.**

**Christ will come again. Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine. Amen.

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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!**

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits.**

– Psalm 103:1-2

**Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal realm. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*HYMN No. 384, V.1, 2, 3

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

O love that wilt not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in Thee;  
I give Thee back the life I owe,  
That in Thine ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O light that followest all my way,  
I yield my flickering torch to Thee;  
My heart restores its borrowed ray,  
That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day  
May brighter, fairer be.

O joy that seekest me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to Thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
And feel the promise is not vain  
That morn shall tearless be.

#### MOMENT FOR GIVING

*The Psalms urge us to give thanks to God at all times, for everything God has provided. In gratitude, we offer to God a portion of what God has given to us, trusting that God will bless what we bring and multiply our gifts to serve God's good purposes. Please leave your offering in the plate in the back of the sanctuary or make your gifts online or via mail. Thank you for your support.*

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*RESPONSE

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

#### WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

#### BENEDICTION

Feel the power of Christ's healing love restoring you. Go in peace, offering help and hope to others. And may the peace of God always be with you. Amen.

POSTLUDE

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Krentz; arr. Carter

~\*~

Worship Leaders

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel

Elizabeth Campbell, soloist

Gloria Snyder, organ and piano

Darcel Hayes-Bridges, liturgist

Tech Support: Jacob Van Norman, Bill Bartlett, Rich Linnell, Kimberly Rausch, Pat Koefoed, Luke McGloughlin

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**Mark 7: 24-35**

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go – the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.