

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

When passing the bread to your neighbor say, "The body of Christ, broken for you."
When passing the cup to your neighbor say, "The blood of Christ, shed for you."
We will hold each element until all are served and then partake together.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN OF SENDING #554 "We Have Heard the Joyful Sound" (verses 1-3)

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #554 "We Have Heard the Joyful Sound"

Give the winds a mighty voice: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Let the nations now rejoice: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Shout salvation full and free, highest hills and deepest caves;
This our song of victory: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY "Jesus Shall Reign"

C. S. Lang



Note: Our guest preacher today is Rev. Joy Fisher, Congregational Consultant, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta

WELCOME VISITOR! We are delighted that you are here to share worship of our Lord Jesus this morning together with the rest of us. We want you to be well informed about the Christian faith and about the church so don't be afraid to ask. You may communicate with us in several ways. Ask a neighbor in your pew, fill out a blue first-time visitor card, add your name to the Ritual of Friendship pad and by all means do not hesitate to contact our pastor. May God bless you this morning and throughout the week.

Rev. Susan Bennett, Pastor
Dorothy Clark, Organist
Tom Francis, Custodian Emeritus

Ward Gailey, Music Director
Linda Hodges, Office Manager
Nursery Attendants: Suzie Wharton

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

February 4, 2018

11:00 a.m.



Celebrating the Sacrament Of Communion

*For as the rain and the snow come down from
heaven, and do not return there until they have
watered the earth, so shall my word be that goes
out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty.*

Isaiah 55:10-11

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

(Please silence and refrain from using all electronic devices during this hour of worship.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

OPENING VOLUNTARY "Psalm 19: The Heavens Declare the Glory of God"

Benedetto Marcello

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Gene Ingram

Please use this time for silent meditation and preparation for worship. Prayer cards are in the pew rack in front of you for submission to church prayer list.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Those who are able, please stand.

*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #82 "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

**Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to His feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore His praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!**

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Isaiah 147)

Liturgist: Gene Ingram

Leader: Praise the Lord!

All: How good it is to sing praises to our God;

Leader: For he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

All: The Lord takes pleasure in those who hope in his steadfast love.

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #59 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, forgive our relentless busyness, our preoccupation with the things of the world, our fear of being still and quiet before you. Help us to remember always that you do not judge or condemn, and that being in your presence is the best and safest place we can ever be. Please hear us now as we continue our confession in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from 1 Corinthians 1:30)

Leader: Jesus Christ has become for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption. Friends, give thanks again for God's amazing grace:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

GLORIA

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.

PROCLAIMING AND ENACTING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Monica Coutin-Baxter

(Children will be dismissed to Children's Worship following the anthem.)

ANTHEM "Who Will Be a Witness?" Spiritual, arr. Moore

Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Isaiah 55:6-13

Page 644, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Mark 4:1-9, 13-20

Page 35, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "The Prodigal Sower"

Rev. Joy Fisher

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*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.

MINISTRY OF GIVING

OFFERTORY "Meditation"

Robert J. Powell

*DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.