

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Acolyte: Grace Robertson

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Tony Williams

Please use this time for silent meditation and preparation for worship. Prayer cards are in the pew rack in front of you. Please place in the offering plate for inclusion in the morning prayers and addition to our church's prayer list.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

**Those who are able, please stand.*

*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT "Seek Ye First"

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you; Allelu, alleluia!
Ask, and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find,
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you; Allelu, alleluia!*

*CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 25

Liturgist: John Dunn

Leader: To you, O Lord, we lift up our soul!

All: Make us to know your ways, O Lord; teach us your paths.

Leader: Lead us in your truth, and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation.

All: Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!

*OPENING HYMN # 593 "Lord, Speak to Me"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, forgive our stubborn hearts and our rebelliousness. We dig in our heels, we refuse your counsel, and we insist we know better, until we have learned yet another lesson the hard way. Help us to see that your ways, your will, are always good and perfect. Help us to see the love and grace that are part of every command you give. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (1 Timothy 1:15)

Leader: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. My friends, give thanks again for God's amazing grace:

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

*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.

PROCLAIMING AND ENACTING THE WORD

*HYMN OF CONSECRATION # 453 "Christ Be My Leader"

CHILDREN'S SERMON

David E. Dillard

ANTHEM

Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Mark 1:9-15

Page 41, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Psalm 25:1-10

Page 475, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "When Age Brings Wisdom"

Rev. Susan Bennett

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.

OFFERTORY

**DOXOLOGY*

*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;
O praise Him, O praise Him; Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

PRAYERS 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.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

**CLOSING HYMN # 549 "I Love Your Kingdom, Lord"*

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "God Be With You"*

*God be with you till we meet again, by his counsels guide, uphold you,
With his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.*

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY*

David E. Dillard



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 our Christian faith and about our 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
David E. Dillard, Director of Music Ministries
Stephanie Dunn, Youth Director
Mary Thompson, Christian Ed Coordinator

Levena Hemmle, Office Manager
Tom Francis, Custodian
Nursery Attendants: Stephanie Phillips, Megan Bennett, and Charlotte Culpepper

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

**February 26, 2012
11:00 a.m.**



*All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and decrees.*

Psalm 25:10