

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: Tom Francis

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 "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place"

**There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.
Sweet, Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
And for these blessings, we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 130)

Liturgist: Linda Roberts

Leader: We wait for the Lord, and in his Word we hope!

All: **We wait for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning.**

Leader: O Church, hope in the Lord!

All: **For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.**

All: **Hallelujah! Let us worship God!**

*OPENING HYMN #21 "This is My Father's World"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, forgive us when we doubt your love, when we forget that you are our Father, not our accuser. Forgive us when we fear your anger, instead of living in your grace. Help us to remember always the depth and sacrifice of the love you show us in Jesus. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Colossians 1:13)

Leader: God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. My friends, rejoice again in the great good news of the gospel:

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 # 48 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Sue Scheer

ANTHEM "They'll Know We Are Christians"

Sanctuary Choir

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Psalm 130

Page 542, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING II Samuel 18:5-9,15,31-33

Page 279, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "A Father's Love"

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 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (*harmonica solo*)

Greg Lathrop

*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.***

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 #66 "To God Be the Glory"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Go With Us, Lord"

***Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.***

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY



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
Stephanie Dunn, Youth Director
Mary Thompson, Christian Ed Coordinator
Levena Hemmle, Office Manager

Tom Francis, Custodian
Nursery Attendants: Stephanie Phillips and Megan Bennett

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

**August 12, 2012
11:00 a.m.**



*The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over
the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, "O my son
Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead
of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!"*

II Samuel 18:33