



# First Presbyterian

## CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God  
October 24, 2021  
The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

### **Mission Sunday**

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

#### **WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

GATHERING MUSIC

TOWER BELLS

PRELUDE

Be Thou My Vision (Hymn 339)

arr. Martin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Mission Team

#### **WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed are those who serve the poor, **they will be called the children of God.**  
Blessed are those who share the wealth, **they will be called the children of God.**  
Blessed are those who open doors, **they will be called the children of God.**  
Blessed are those who break down walls, **they will be called the children of God.**  
Blessed are those who challenge hate, **they will be called the children of God.**  
Blessed are those who live their faith, **they will be called the children of God.**  
Blessed are those who show Christ's love, **they will be called the children of God.**  
Let the children of God join hands in praise, prayer and in service!  
**Let us worship God.**

\*HYMN No. 434

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

Today we all are called to be disciples of the Lord,  
To help to set the captive free, make plowshare out of sword,  
To feed the hungry, quench their thirst, make love and peace our fast,  
To serve the poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.

God made the world and at its birth ordained our human race  
To live as stewards of the earth, responding to God's grace.  
But we are vain and sadly proud, we sow not peace but strife,  
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,  
With righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem.  
For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,  
A world that was created for a harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God act out the living Word,  
And walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard.  
As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord  
To God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.

## **WE PREPARE TO HEAR GOD'S WORD**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious Creator, have mercy on us, we have eaten our fill of this world's bounty and allowed the leftover to spoil.

**Help us to take only what we need.**

We have used all our resources and taken those of others.

**Help us to take only what we need.**

We have created disasters in our response to disasters.

**Help us to learn.**

We have believed we were right, simply because of our wealth.

**Help us to listen.**

We have received more than we need, and rarely given the excess away.

**Help us to share.**

We have failed to fix our systems of waste.

**Help us to conserve.**

Come to us, Holy Spirit, and hear our prayers. Forgive us these things and those we have not named. Empower us to join our hands together.

*Silent Prayer*

**Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Our good news is this: The steadfast love of God never ceases. God's mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning. Great is God's faithfulness. -Lamentations 3:22-23

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

\*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

Matthew 25:31-46

Reader: When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates his sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand,

Jesus/King: Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.

Reader: The righteous will then answer him,

Piano side: **When, Lord, did we ever see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we ever see you a stranger and welcome you in our homes, or naked and clothe you? When did we ever see you sick or in prison, and visit you?**

Jesus/King: I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important of these members of my family, you did it for me!

Reader: Then he will say to those on his left,

Jesus/King: Away from me! I was hungry but you would not feed me, thirsty but you would not give me a drink; I was a stranger but you would not welcome me, naked but you would not clothe me; I was sick and in prison but you would not take care of me.

Reader: Then they will answer him,

Organ side: **When, Lord, did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and would not help you?**

Jesus/King: I tell you, whenever you refused to help one of these least important ones, you refused to help me.

SERMON

Hungry

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

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. Please leave your offering in the plate in the back of the sanctuary or make your gifts online or via mail.*

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the poor, hungry, and neglected in our community and all over the world. May their cries for daily bread inspire works of compassion among us until no one hungers again.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the farmers and field workers throughout the world who grow and gather the food which sustains humankind. Let us pray for all who face natural disasters, or who lack access to water and other resources and for whom it is difficult to produce enough food for their communities.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the health of our elders, of children, and of families around the world. We pray that all God's people may be empowered to strengthen their communities and repair the breaches which divide nations and peoples.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for an end to the waste and desecration of God's creation, for access to the fruits of creation to be shared equally among all people, and for communities and nations to be good stewards of the earth and the water God has given us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for all nations and people who already enjoy the abundance of creation and the blessings of prosperity, that their hearts may be lifted up to the needs of the poor and afflicted.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the ongoing work of our Mission partners here in Easton - Safe Harbor, ProJeCt of Easton, Meals on Wheels.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for our church, that our congregation have faith in your love and care for us. We especially pray for all who are ill and who face hardship. We thank you for blessing us and calling us to your mission. Encourage and inspire us, the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church of Easton, to continue to join our hands together to end hunger near and far.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray 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.**

We All Are One in Mission

We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,  
Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single, great commission compels us from above  
To plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.

We all are called for service to witness in God's name;  
Our ministries are different, our purpose is the same:  
To touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace  
So every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.

Now let us be united and let our song be heard.  
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word.  
We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,  
Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

**WE GO IN GOD'S NAME**

BENEDICTION

Do what you have learned and received and seen and heard in Christ, and the peace of God will be with you.  
And may that peace, which passes all understanding, guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

ANTHEM

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

God be with you till we meet again;  
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
With a Shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;  
Unseen wings protecting hide you,  
Daily manna still provide you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

POSTLUDE

Be Thou My Vision (Hymn 339)

arr. Callahan

*The table flowers are given by Shirley Keller.*

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Worship Leaders

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel

Elizabeth Campbell, choir director

Gloria Snyder, organ and piano

Pat Koefoed, Carol Schroeder, Nancy Udut, Peg Opthof, Mission Team

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

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