

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

May 16, 2021

PRELUDE “A Reflection on Austria” Jordan

WELCOME & COMMUNITY SHARING

CALL TO WORSHIP

The psalm teaches us:

Happy are those who do not ridicule and scoff
but who delight in God’s teachings
and meditate on them day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water.

**They yield fruit in due season,
and their leaves do not wither.**

HYMN “God, You Spin the Whirling Planets” No. 285

1. God, You spin the whirling planets,
Fill the seas and spread the plain
Mold the mountains, fashion blossoms,
Call forth sunshine, wind and rain.
We, created in Your image,
Would a true reflection be
Of Your justice, grace and mercy
And the truth that makes us free.

2. You have called us to be faithful
In our life and ministry.
We respond in grateful worship
Joined in one community
When we blur Your gracious image,
Focus us and make us whole.
Healed and strengthened as Your people,
We move onward toward Your goal.

3. God, Your word is still creating,
Calling us to life made new.
Now reveal to us fresh vistas
Where there’s work to dare and do.
Keep us clear of all distortion.
Polish us with loving care.
Thus, new creatures in Your image,
We’ll proclaim Christ everywhere.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Lord watches over our ways. Let us put our trust in God’s
grace and confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, though you call us to delight in your
teachings, we can become cynical and full of doubt. Do not
judge us, we pray, but heal us and restore us to you. Guard
us and protect us from evil, and sanctify us in truth; in Jesus’
name. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Christ Jesus, God has promised to forgive us and reconcile us
to God and each other. With joy, in all that we do, let us share
that peace with one another. **Thanks be to God.**

SHARING GOD’S GIFTS

God invites us to give the testimony of our hearts in practical
offerings of ourselves. Therefore let us testify to God’s love by
bringing our gifts.

*The Offering plate is in the Narthex. You may also choose to mail your
offering to the church office, or give online through our website,
cazpres.org.*

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Holy One, Jesus has made you known to us. We and all we
have belong to you. So we dedicate these gifts to your service
and to the glory of your name. Amen.**

1 Fairest Lord Jesus,
Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God to earth come down,
Thee will I cherish,
Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul’s glory, joy and crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,
Fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,
Fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Lord of all, may the reading of your Word sanctify us in the truth and bring us to perfect joy. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the believers^a (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶ “Friends,^b the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— ¹⁷ for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ²¹ So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” ²³ So they proposed two, Joseph called

Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴ Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take the place^a in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

GOSPEL: John 17:6-19

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them in your name that^a you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost,^b so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves.^c ¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵ I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.^d ¹⁶ They do not belong to the world, just as I do not

belong to the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

SERMON "My Prayer for You"

PRAYERS OR INTERCESSION

HYMN "God of Our Life" No. 275

1 God of our life, through all the circling years,
we trust in Thee;
In all the past, through all our hopes and fears,
Thy hand we see.
With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,
we own thy mercies, Lord, which never fail.

2 God of the past, our times are in Thy hand;
with us abide.
Lead us by faith, to hope's true Promised Land;
be Thou our guide.
With Thee to bless, the darkness shines as light,
and faith's fair vision changes into sight.

3 God of the coming years, through paths unknown
we follow Thee;
when we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone;
our refuge be.
Be now for us in life our daily bread,
our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Prelude and Fugue in F" J. S. Bach

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Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

We are delighted to have you join us in worship today!

*You will find First Presbyterian Church to be a welcoming,
inclusive and affirming community of faith.*

*If you are a guest with us this morning, please take a
moment to fill out one of the Guest Information Cards can
be obtained from and usher. If you have any questions
about this church, its history or its mission, please feel free
to ask one of our greeters, ushers, members, or pastor.*

*Please be mindful of others in the congregation who wish to be in
silent meditation upon entering the sanctuary.*

Please silence all cell phones.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND ASSISTED HEARING DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE

Please see an usher for assistance

IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Liturgist: Beth Freedman

Usher: Sue Perriello

May Flowers: Kris Curtis

Dear Caz Pres Congregation,

I'm taking the Ration Challenge.

For one week (June 13-19), I will eat the same rations as a Syrian refugee living in a camp in Jordan, just a small amount of rice, flour, lentils, chickpeas, beans, fish and oil. That's it!



The money I raise will help Church World Service bring emergency food, healthcare and life-saving support to the people who need it most. The war in Syria has been going on for ten years. There are about 5.6 million Syrian refugees who have left the country, and another 6.1 million who have been displaced. More than 500,000 have died in the conflict.

I would love you to help me make a difference!

Head to <https://www.rationchallengeusa.org/sam-pendergrast> and check out my fundraising page to find out more about my challenge experience and make a donation.

If you prefer not to make a donation on line, you may write a check to Church World Service and give it to me for me to pass on.

Thank you! Together we can save lives!

Sam Pendergrast

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Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9am – 3pm

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