



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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September 24, 2023

Gathering Song: The Tender Love a Father Has

† Call to Worship (from Psalm 145)

Pastor: I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

People: The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.

Pastor: The LORD is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.

People: The LORD upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

Pastor: The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Unison: My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.

† Hymn: O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings

Hebrews 2:18; 4:14-16; 5:7-10 Responsive

¹⁸Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

¹⁴Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

¹⁶Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

⁷During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

⁸Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered ⁹and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him ¹⁰and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

Matthew 27:1-5 Responsive

¹Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people made their plans how to have Jesus executed. ²So they bound him, led him away and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

³When Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. ⁴"I have sinned," he said, "for I have betrayed innocent blood."

"What is that to us?" they replied. "That's your responsibility."

⁵So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

† 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.

† Hymn: O Love That Will Not let Me Go

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

arr: Yuta Sugano

† Doxology

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

Second Scripture Readings

Luke 15:11-20 Responsive

¹¹Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

¹³**"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need.**

¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷**"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' ²⁰So he got up and went to his father.**

Luke 22:31-34; 54-62 Responsive

³¹"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. ³²But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."

³³**But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death."**

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³⁴ Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."

⁵⁴ **Then seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance.**

⁵⁵ And when some there had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. ⁵⁶ A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at him and said, "This man was with him."

⁵⁷ **But he denied it. "Woman, I don't know him," he said.**

⁵⁸ A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them."

"Man, I am not!" Peter replied.

⁵⁹ About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean."

⁶⁰ **Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. ⁶¹ The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times."**

⁶² And he went outside and wept bitterly.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: How to Be Successful When You Fail

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: I Then Shall Live

† Responsive Litany (Hebrews 4:14-16)

Pastor: Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

People: For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses,

Pastor: but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

Unison: Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Yuta Sugano, Musician

To Our Visitors

We welcome you and hope our worship enables you to draw near to God through Christ Jesus, and that you feel welcome among us. Please sign our guest book in the Narthex.

**Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:17**

In Need of Prayer

Brenda, for improved health
Jen's father, chemo treatment
Jen, serious ankle injury
Ed, for mobility, back pain
Nancy, health
Jane, encouragement
Darlene, heart and dialysis
Maureen, dear friend of Lisa
Raven, child with seizures
Kay, hospice, for peace and pain relief
Kimi, for suffering
Pray for caregivers of the ill
Isaiah, age 17, brain injury, home
Jack W, deep grief, loss of wife
Brenda's nephew and his friends for
encouragement and better jobs, and
nephew Glenn: serious illness
Richard, for success of stem cell
transplant. (Hartig family)
Caroline M's mother, failing
Newborn boy (twin) in NICU
Rosie, Linda's daughter, grieving
death of her fiancé.

In Need of Prayer

Weston, 20-year old grandson, improving
Lisa, Pastor's niece, newly discovered cancer
Glad, for restored strength
Ray, continued recovery of strength
Nancy H, to feel better, tests
Benita, improved blood counts
Jalene, MS flare-up and heart attack, husband caring for her
Domingo, needs transplants; LaShell, cancer
Sean's aunt & uncle, heavy caregiving
Debbie, Pam's friend, hospitalized
Judy V. and family in Florida
Lance, brother-in-law of Isles family
Sue, sister-in-law of Isles family
Ron, age 34, heart failure, needs heart transplant
Katalee, for full healing of lymphoma
Alicia, niece of Carolyn, cancer diagnosis
Beth, fresh grief over death of husband
Sarah, for strength to carry her load
Ryan, age 16, recent kidney transplant, also family donor
Donna's friends, Sam, surgery, and wife Janene
Tom & Carol's son, back surgery, needs care of family
Pastor Scott McKee, serious cancer

Janet Evans, confusion (in AZ)
John E: kidney transplant patient with Covid

The Jennet family with 2 cancer patients needing care

General Fund giving last week: \$1,821
Total giving to date in Sept: \$13,762
Thank you for your faithful giving.

Please continue to pray for our friend, missionary
Enrique Cepeda, who required surgery to save his life,
while ministering in Korea. He remains under care in
ICU.

Heidelberg Catechism Q 122: What does the first request (in the Lord's Prayer) mean? **A.** *Hallowed be thy name* means, Help us to really know you, to bless, worship, and praise you for all your works and all that shines forth from them: your almighty power, wisdom, kindness, justice, mercy and truth. And it means, Help us to direct all our living—what we think, say, and do—so that your name will never be blasphemed because of us but always honored and praised.

