



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 26, 2006

Eleven o'clock

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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## THE GATHERING

*The service of worship begins with the prelude; quiet is requested as you enter the sanctuary and prepare for worship. In the spirit of Christian fellowship, we invite you to wear a name tag which is available from the greeters. As a community that prays with and for one another, we invite you to share your joys and concerns by using the blue cards available from the ushers and in the welcome pad folders. Those parts of the Service of Worship in which the congregation participates in word or song are noted in bold type.*

*\*Stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE                      Passacaglia in D Minor                      Max Reger

\* HYMN 466                      O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing                      Azmon

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Great God, You existed before all time, and made all things.

**People: All things belong to You—the two-legged, the four-legged, the birds of the air, and all green things that live.**

Leader: We are lifting our voices to You, the Creator

**People: Forgetting nothing You have made, the stars of the universe and the grasses of the earth.**

**All: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!**

### INTROIT

Don Fontana

*This is the day that the Lord has made, let us be glad and rejoice in it.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Please use the welcome pad in the blue folder at the end of the pew. Record your presence. Pass it back, noticing who is worshipping with you. When the pad has been returned, please tear off the sheet and place it in the offering plate.)*

## MINUTE FOR CULTUREFEST

Barbara Ryder

## COMMISSIONING OF USHERS

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

O God, so often the world has told us You do not love us and You do not care, and we have secretly trusted those misleading voices. Too often we have lived as if we deny that Jesus was born and walked among us, proclaiming Your love and bringing Your healing to all. Too often we have failed to be the means by which Your love would be known. Forgive us, Lord, and help us focus on Your gift of love, that by our words and our deeds all might come to know how much You love us. In Christ we pray, Amen.

## PRAYERS OF SILENT AND INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Thanks be to God! When we have faced ourselves and God in our need, we are given grace to grow and courage to continue the journey. Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

### \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn No. 455, Stanza 5

*Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

And everyone of tender heart,  
Forgiving others, take your part.  
O sing ye! Alleluia!

Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and cast on God your care.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

\* **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: Let us open our hearts to one another as Christ has opened his heart to us, and God will be glorified.

People: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

(Exchange Signs of Reconciliation and the Peace of Christ with your neighbor - e.g., "*The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.*")

Response - "*And also with you.*")

† *Children and Youth may now leave for their classes.*

\* **HYMN 344**

Christ of the Upward Way

*Sursum Corda*

**PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.

**CHORAL PRAYER RESPONSE**

**THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**     Isaiah 43:18-25

**ANTHEM**

Lord Jesus Think on Me

*Robert Elmore*

*Lord Jesus, think on me And purge away my sin;  
From earthborn passions set me free And make me pure within.*

*Lord Jesus, think on me, With care and woe oppressed;  
Let me Thy loving servant be And taste Thy promised rest.*

*Lord Jesus, think on me Nor let me go astray;  
Through darkness and perplexity Point Thou the heavenly way.*

*Lord Jesus, think on me That, when the flood is past,  
I may th'eternal brightness see And share Thy joy at last.*

LATIN, 4<sup>TH</sup> CENT.; TRANS. ALLEN CHATFIELD

NEW TESTAMENT READING Mark 2:1-12

SERMON "Background Heroics" Rev. Richard S. Hong

OFFERTORY Alleluia, Song of Gladness David Ashley White

*Alleluia, song of gladness, voice of joy that cannot die;  
alleluia is the anthem ever raised by choirs on high;  
in the house of God abiding thus they sing eternally.*

*Alleluia thou resoundest, true Jerusalem and free;  
alleluia, joyful mother, all thy children sing with thee;  
but by Babylon's sad waters mourning exiles now are we.*

*Alleluia, though we cherish and would chant for evermore  
alleluia, in our singing let us for a while give o'er,  
as our Saviour in his fasting, pleasures of the world forbore.*

*Therefore in our hymns we pray thee, grant us blessed Trinity,  
at the last to keep thine Easter with thy faithful saints on high;  
there to thee for ever singing alleluia joyfully!*

LATIN, 11TH CENT.; TR. JOHN MASON NEALE

\* THE DOXOLOGY Old Hundredth

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.  
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

### THE SENDING OUT

\* HYMN 387 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us Bradbury

\* BENEDICTION

\* CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE Carillon-Sortie Henri Mulet

*(Our worship ends with the conclusion of the Postlude. It is the custom of our church to remain seated. Those who wish to leave may do so.)*

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