



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

June 24, 2007

Eleven o'clock

TWELTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

Elevation

Antoine Batiste

* CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 42)

Leader: As the deer pants for flowing water, so our souls long for you,
O God.

People: We thirst for You, O living God, we long to see Your face.

Leader: People mock us because of our belief, crying "Where is your
God?"

**People: But our praise and thanksgiving proclaims the reality of Your
presence.**

Leader: When we are cast down and troubled, our hope is still in You.

**People: Even through our fears we praise You, our help, our rock,
our God.**

* HYMN 469

Morning Has Broken

Bunessan

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 MISSION

Frank Denbow

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we rejoice that in Christ there is neither Jew nor Greek, male nor female. Yet the church is all too often torn apart by disunity and fails to be an example of Your reconciling love. Forgive us every hurtful word or action that has caused pain and anger. Forgive us when we exclude people through the language we use or the prejudicial attitudes we hold. Forgive our inclination to accept people more readily who look and think like us. Forgive any narrow-mindedness which is so much at odds with the wideness of Your love and mercy. Loving God, help us to be a church in which our unity in Jesus is visible in the way we joyfully welcome and unconditionally accept strangers; in the compassionate way we bind up the brokenhearted; selflessly reaching out to those struggling with poverty and poor health; and passionately helping to free those who are oppressed in any way. May our worship, witness and service truly reflect our unity as the body of Christ in this place. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYERS OF SILENT AND INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymnal No. 579

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.*

* EXCHANGE OF 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, 3 yrs-old - 8th grade, leave for their classes.*

* HYMN 341 Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine! *Assurance*

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 65:1-9

ANTHEM Jubilate Deo *Dale Wood*

*O Sing to the Lord with a jubilant voice,
Glory to God in the highest!
O serve him with gladness, before him rejoice.
Praise to the Lord in the highest!
The Lord is our God, our Creator, not we,
the sheep of his pasture we ever shall be.
O enter his gates with thanksgiving and praise.
To honor his name thankful voices we raise.
For good is the lord, and his mercy is sure.
To all generations his truth shall endure.*

SECOND LESSON Luke 8:26-39

SERMON "Better The Devil You Know" Rev. Richard S. Hong

OFFERTORY The Gift of Love Hal Hopson

*Though I may speak with bravest fire,
And have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain,
As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.*

*Though I may give all I possess,
And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within,
The profit soon turns strangely thin.*

*Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
By this we worship, and are freed.*

* 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.*

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SENDING OUT

* HYMN 466 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing Azmon

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Entrée Pontifical Enrico Bossi

(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.)

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 65:1-9 (NRSV)

I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, 'Here I am, here I am', to a nation that did not call on my name. ²I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; ³a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; ⁴who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; ⁵who say, 'Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.' These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. ⁶See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps ⁷their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the LORD; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. ⁸Thus says the LORD: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, 'Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it', so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. ⁹I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

Luke 8:26-39 (NRSV)

Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me'—²⁹for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He

said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. ³²Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. ³⁴When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.