



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

June 8, 2008
Eleven o'clock

TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SERVICE OF HEALING AND WHOLENESS

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. Please place the prayer cards in the offering for inclusion in the Pastoral Prayer. 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 Two Chorale Preludes W. F. Bach

* HYMN 257 Give Praise to the Lord *Laudate Dominum*

* CALL TO WORSHIP (based on I Peter 2:9-11)

Leader: You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation.

People: We are a people belonging to God.

Leader: In Christ the barriers that divide us one from another are torn down.

People: We are made the children of Abraham and joint heirs to all God's promises.

Leader: You were called out of darkness into God's wonderful light.

People: We praise God for the great love and mercy shown to us through Christ Jesus our Lord!

INTROIT Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing John Carter

*Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, Mount of Thy redeeming love.*

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 worshiping with you. When the pad has been returned, please tear off the sheet and place it in the offering plate.)

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES *Rev. Hong & Dorothy VanderWerf*

THANK YOU TO TEACHERS AND LEADERS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus, we have so many excuses for not following you. We complain that we already have too many obligations and responsibilities. Life crowds in upon us and we seem to cave in to its temptations and traps. We blame the world around us for our inability to live fully in your love. We turn our backs on opportunities for service and witness. We focus on our own needs and desires at the exclusion of others. Yet when you called Matthew from his tax-collecting to follow you, his response seems to have been immediate. Forgive us, Lord, when we do not even expect to hear your call in the midst of the daily activities of our lives and so we fail to discern your presence and we fail to answer your call. Heal our wounded and bleeding souls and spirits. Calm our lives. Help us when we hesitate, and strengthen us where we are weak. Breathe your Spirit afresh into our hearts and minds, so that we will have the courage to follow you wherever you take us, Amen.

PRAYERS OF SILENT AND INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: The God who calls us is the God who created us; the God who formed us is the God who forgives us. We are God's new creation. Believe the Good News!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

* 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."*)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

+ *Children and Youth leave for their classes.* +

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON Genesis 12:1-9

SECOND LESSON Matthew 9:9-26

SERMON "Go and Learn" Rev. Richard S. Hong

OFFERTORY God of Grace and God of Glory Paul Langston
The text may be found at No. 420 in the Hymnal

* 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.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

LITANY FOR HEALING AND WHOLENESS

Leader: Gracious God, your will for all people is health and salvation:

People: We praise you and thank you, O God.

Leader: O God, grant your healing grace to all who are sick or injured, that they may be made whole;

People: Be with us and heal us, O God.

Leader: Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;

People: Be with us and heal us, O God.

Leader: Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;

People: Restore wholeness to whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;

Leader: Bless all who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom, sympathy and patience;

People: Grant skill and compassion to doctors, nurses, technicians, aides, and all who are called to practice medical arts, and make strong their dedication to help others;

Leader: You are the God who does wonders:

People: You have declared your power among the peoples

Leader: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray together:

All: 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.

During the singing of the Hymns, you are invited to come forward for the anointing of oil for the healing of fears, prejudice, physical or emotional ills for yourself or for others. At that time, if you wish, you may share your prayer concerns with the pastor.

Silent Prayer

As persons come forward for prayer, you are invited to silently pray for their concerns, as we support one another as a community of faith.

Hymn 363 I Want Jesus to Walk with Me Sojourner

Hymn 380 O Christ, the Healer Erhalt Uns, Herr

Hymn 394 There is a Balm in Gilead Balm in Gilead

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(in unison)*

Most Gracious God, source of all healing, we give thanks to you for all your gifts but most of all for the gift of your Son, through whom you gave and still give health and salvation. As we wait in expectation for the coming of that day when suffering and pain shall be no more, help us by your Holy Spirit to receive your power in our lives and to trust in your eternal love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT

* HYMN 466 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing Azmon

* BENEDICTION

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE Fugue in B-flat Major W. F. Bach

(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

Genesis 12:1-9 (NRSV)

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." ⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

Matthew 9:9-26 (NRSV)

⁹As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. ¹⁰And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹²But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners." ¹⁴Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?" ¹⁵And Jesus said to them, "The wedding guests cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶No one sews a

piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. ¹⁷Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are destroyed; but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved.” ¹⁸While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, “My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.” ¹⁹And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. ²⁰Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, ²¹for she said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.” ²²Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And instantly the woman was made well. ²³When Jesus came to the leader’s house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, ²⁴he said, “Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at him. ²⁵But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. ²⁶And the report of this spread throughout that district.