



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 8, 2009

Eleven o'clock

FIFTH 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 Overture and Sarabande (from *Baroques*) Seth Bingham

* **HYMN 476** O Worship the King, All Glorious Above! Lyons

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Praise the Lord!

People: How wonderful it is to sing praises to God!

Leader: Our spirits are lifted, our souls rejoice!

People: God is gracious and God's healing mercy is with us!

Leader: Let us celebrate the power of God to restore us!

People: Together let us open our hearts and our lives to God today!

INTROIT

John Carter

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace.

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.)*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, you have called us here and you ask us to be ready to go on a journey with you, but our hearts are fearful and keep us from truly doing all that you ask of us. Forgive us for the times when our piety is visible on Sundays, but hard to detect the rest of the week. Forgive us for being content to have the gospel proclaimed within these walls but not in the communities where we live or study or work. Forgive us when we forget that our faith in the gospel includes the faith that the hopes and dreams of the downtrodden and powerless can be transformed into reality. Help us believe anew in your powerful presence and your guiding love. Strengthen us with the Holy Spirit to do all for the sake of the gospel, so that all those to whom it is proclaimed may share in its blessings. We ask these things in the name of Jesus, who makes all things possible. Amen.

PRAYERS OF SILENT AND INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Friends, believe and proclaim the Good News: in Jesus Christ, love breaks through hatred, hope breaks through despair, life breaks through death.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and set free.
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. +

* HYMN 149 (see insert) I Love to Tell the Story Hankey

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 40:21-31

SOLO Rolling in Foaming Billows (from *The Creation*) F. J. Haydn
MALCOLM COUDEN, BARITONE

And God said, Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering of waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

*Rolling in foaming billows Uplifted roars the boist'rous sea.
Mountains and rocks now emerge: Their tops into the clouds ascend.
Through th'open plains, outstretching wide In serpent error, rivers flow.
Softly purling glides on Thro' silent vales the limpid brook.*

SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

SERMON “From Conflict to Community” Rev. Richard S. Hong

OFFERTORY

Let All the World

E. T. Chapman

*Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!
 The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly,
 the earth is not too low, his praises there may grow.
 Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!
 Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!
 The church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out;
 but, above all, the heart must bear the longest part.
 Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!*

WORDS: GEORGE HERBERT, 1633

*** 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 & 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 SENDING OUT

*** HYMN 430**

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

Darwall's 148th

*** BENEDICTION**

*** CHORAL AMEN**

POSTLUDE

Rhythmic Trumpet (from *Baroques*)

Seth Bingham

(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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TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 40:21-31 (NRSV)

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

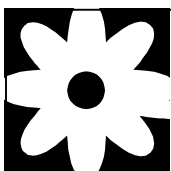
²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

1 Corinthians 9:16-23 (NRSV)

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

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If you wish to honor or memorialize a relative or friend with **Chancel Flowers** on any Sunday, please mark the date on the calendar in the flower room. Also, fill out the information form available there or at the Information Table near the Chapel entrance. The regular cost to the

church for two arrangements is \$70. Two custom-made arrangements start at \$130 + up. Please make your check payable to the First Presbyterian Church with Flower Fund clearly indicated on the Memo line and submit it with the form either in the box of our Office Manager at the office entrance or by mail to the office. If you wish to make a donation to keep the flower fund functioning, a check may be sent to the Office Manager at any time. Your support and cooperation are greatly appreciated.

