

Extending God's Grace throughout Northeast Texas
First Presbyterian Church—Winnsboro, TX
Rev. Dr. Julie Adkins
October 8, 2017

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Chimes, the Flames, and the Waters
Greetings and Announcements
(*)-Stand if Able

We Prepare to Receive the Word

Prelude

Opening Responsive Reading (from *Psalms 19*)
The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

**Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.**

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard,
**Yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.**

Let us praise and worship God!

Prayer of Adoration and The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)
. . . . taught us, when we pray, to say: **Our Father ...**

***Hymn of Praise: #288** "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

Confession

Giver of good and holy law, we thank you for sending us your Son, the Prince of Peace, who has brought to us your precious gift of eternal life. Yet just as we rejected your prophets, so we have also rejected him. We have sinned against you and caused you grief, and we cast ourselves upon your faithful mercy. Forgive us for rejecting you by spurning your gifts of love. Help us by your Spirit to embrace your holiness, that we may live in a manner worthy of our calling, to the honor of Jesus, our Lord (A few moments for the silent confession of personal sin)...**Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

*The 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."

Time With The Younger Church

We Receive the Word

The Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20@
Epistle Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14@
Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:33-46@

@- This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon: "The Kingdom of God Is Like a Fruit Salad ..."

***Hymn: #419** "How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord"

We Respond to the Word

***The Affirmation of Faith— The Apostles' Creed**
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead, He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of Intercession

The Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves

***The Doxology – “Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen”**

***The Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn #539 “Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise”**

***Charge and Benediction**

***The Benediction Response:** (tune is #538)
**Lord, dismiss us with Thy blessing; Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Thy love possessing, Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us, Traveling through this wilderness.**

To our guest,

We are so glad that you joined us today. We believe that it was no accident that you came here, and that God has given us the opportunity to share the love, grace, and saving gospel of Jesus with you. And so, it is our prayer that you feel loved in this place, and we want you to know that you are welcomed no matter what is going on in your life. We will embrace you with the same grace that God has embraced us with, and we will proclaim to you the same good news that has called us and saved us. If you want to make this church your home, and these people your family let us know after the service or by phone or email later this week. We would love to welcome you into Jesus' family.

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