

Extending God's Grace throughout Northeast Texas
First Presbyterian Church—Winnsboro, TX
Commissioned Pastor Jane Els
June 1, 2025
Seventh Sunday of Easter

The Chimes, the Flames, and the Waters
Greetings and Announcements

*=Stand, if able

Preparing to Receive the Word

Prelude

Call to Worship: (Responsive) *Psalm 97*

The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice!

We tremble at God's awesome works!

The heavens proclaim God's righteousness!

The Lord is our guard and protector!

Light dawns and joy fills our hearts!

Rejoice in the Lord and give thanks!

Opening Prayer

*Hymn of Praise: #348 (red hymnal) "Faith of Our Fathers"

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Merciful God, you desire that the world might see your light shine through us. Yet we confess we are often too blinded by the glittering temptations of this world. We turn from your way, hurting the very ones we were called to serve, in our action and our inaction. We grow frustrated with each other, seeking to silence anything besides our own desires. We fail to see your righteousness and champion greed and discord in the name of power and popularity. Forgive us. Melt us and mold us into more faithful disciples, seeking your light, reflecting your mercy, and sharing your grace. Amen.

(a few moments for 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."

Receiving the Word

The Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 97 @

Epistle Reading: Acts 1:1-11 @

The Gospel Reading: John 14: 23-29

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

Sermon: "Ascension Into Heaven"

*Hymn of Meditation: #213 (red hymnal) "Crown Him With Many Crowns"

Responding to The Word

***Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Unison)**

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 on 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 Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

*The Doxology - Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*The Prayer of Dedication

Invitation To The Lord's Table

It is Christ himself who invites us to meet him here now.....

...Whenever we taste food or water, may we remember those who hunger or thirst; And, as we are nourished, may we gain energy to work for a greater sharing in your world. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

May the Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution and the Lord's Supper

Prayer After Communion

***Hymn of Sending: #370 "Just as I am, Without One Plea"**

***The Benediction**

***Congregational Response: #106 "Alleluia, alleluia! Give Thanks" (Refrain)**

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His Name

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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Peace I Leave

with You;

My Peace I Give

to You

John 14:27