Extending God's Grace throughout Northeast Texas First Presbyterian Church—Winnsboro, TX Commissioned Pastor Jane Els

August 17, 2025 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Chimes, the Flames, and the Waters Greetings and Announcements
*=Stand, if able

We Prepare to Receive the Word

Prelude

Call to Worship: (Responsive) (based on Hebrews 12:1-2)
We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.
Let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely.
Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.
Let us look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

Opening Prayer

*Hymn: #349 (red hymnal) "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"

Confession - Unison

Christ calls us to stand with the least and the last, but we cling to power and privilege. We fear worldly consequences for faithful action. We fail to follow where Christ leads, making excuses for ourselves, for our silence in the face of oppression, for our lack of action. Forgive us, God, and help us risk following where Christ calls. Amen. [a moment for silent confession] 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."

We Receive the Word

The Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 80:1-2 @ Epistle Reading: Hebrews 11:29-12:2 @ The Gospel Reading: Luke 12:49-56

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

Sermon: "Faith and Peace"

We Respond to The Word

*Hymn: #383 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

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 Spirit, 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 is seated 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 Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of the 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

*Hymn #307 "Fight the Good Fight"

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction response: STF #2030 "The first Song of Isaiah" Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my strong-hold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.

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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LUKE 12:49