



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH** FORT SCOTT, KANSAS

**Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2020**



Hope Is A Perennial

Mother's Day @ fpc
May 10, 2020

image: goodhousekeeping.com

SERVING THIS MORNING:
Music Director: Dr. Greg Turner
Worship Leader: John Crain
Vocalist: Tyler Slimkard

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Prelude

CALL TO WORSHIP:

When the world is unjust and cruel,
we gather in hope.
In moments when it is easy to see God's presences,
we gather in hope.
We gather together as God's people, doing God's work in God's world.
We gather in hope!

PRAYER FOR THE DAY:

Almighty God, in Christ you have shown us the way,
revealed to us your truth,
and offered to us everlasting life.
Keep our eyes upon him,
that we may see your path more clearly,
know your truth more fully,
and receive your life more abundantly;
through Christ who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit
in eternal glory. **Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN:** *"God, You Spin the Whirling Planets"* #24

- 1. *God, you spin the whirling planets, fill the seas and spread the plain,
mold the mountains, fashion blossoms, call forth sunshine, wind, and rain.
We, created in your image, would a true reflection be
of your justice, grace, and mercy, and the truth that makes us free.***
- 2. *You have called us to be faithful in our life and ministry.
We respond in grateful worship, joined in one community.
When we blur your gracious image, focus us and make us whole,
healed and strengthened as your people, we move onward toward your goal.***
- 3. *God, your will is still creating, calling us to life made new,
now reveal to us fresh vistas where there's work to dare and do.
Keep us clear of all distortion, fashion us with loving care,
thus, new creatures in your image, we'll proclaim Christ everywhere.***

*CALL TO CONFESSION:

Whoever believes in Christ will not be put to shame.
Confident in this promise, let us confess our sin before God and one another

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Infinite God, there is no shortage of pain in your world.
We are surrounded by unjust systems that separate your
creation as though some are more deserving than others.
Yet, we fall in line, too scared of the risks you may call us to take.
We see communities that are forgotten and,
instead of turning our attention to them, we hoard our
own resources and pretend not to know what is
happening outside our own doors.
We know the weight of trauma that rests in the hearts
of many and demand that people “get over it” so that we don’t
have to worry anymore. Be with us. Stir us from our settled ways.
Give us hope so that we may continually praise you by caring for one another.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

#377

O Lord, have mercy, O Lord have mercy,
O Lord have mercy, have mercy on us.
O Christ have mercy, O Christ have mercy,
O Christ have mercy, have mercy on us.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:**

Our continual hope is met by God’s continual grace,
calling us in through the generosity of the Spirit so
that we may find in Jesus Christ a forgiveness
that moves us to action. Let us be moved! Let us act!
Let us give thanks! Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Let us offer and receive the peace of Christ as a sign of
God’s grace and assurance of forgiveness.

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
(We encourage you to share Christ’s peace by texts and phone calls.)

***SUNG RESPONSE**

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Let us unite our hearts in prayer, saying,
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For the church throughout the world,
that all who profess to honor the risen Lord
may be faithful in their witness
and courageous in their testimony to the way of Jesus;
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For pastors, teachers and ministers,
that, by the power of the Holy Spirit,
they may seek to build the church upon Christ,
the cornerstone, and humbly lead in faithful service;
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For the governments of the world and its leaders.
that the nations may dwell in peace,
that good will prevail over strife,
and people of faith may freely worship as their hearts direct;
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For rain and sun in proper measure,
and for abundant food and water for all who dwell upon the earth;
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For the sick and those in need,
and for any who are oppressed by wounds of the soul;
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For our neighbors
that we may live together in amity,
and that strangers among us
may find us to be hospitable friends;
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For our enemies,
that their sins may be forgiven them
and that they may find your peace;
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those near to us who need your strength and healing...(prayer cards)

Almighty God,
your Son promised to grant whatever we ask in his name.
By your Holy Spirit empower us to minister to the world as
his faithful disciples that our work may testify to what we pray
and show forth your eternal glory, through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

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.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Lord, as we listen to your holy Word,
open our hearts to the power of your Spirit,
call us out of darkness,
and lead us into your marvelous light. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 71:1-16

In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame.
In your righteousness, deliver me and rescue me;
incline your ear to me and save me.
Be my rock of refuge,
a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock
and my fortress.
Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.
For you, O LORD, are my hope, my trust, O LORD,
from my youth.
Upon you I have leaned from birth; it was
You who took me from my mother's womb.
My praise is continually of you.
I have been like a portent to many, but you are my
strong refuge.
My mouth is filled with your praise,
And with your glory all day long.
Do not cast me off in the time of old age;
do not forsake me when my strength is spent.
For my enemies speak concerning me;
and those who watch for my life consult together.
They say, 'Pursue and seize that person whom
God has forsaken, for there is no one to deliver.'
O God, do not be far from me; O my God, make haste to help me!
Let my accusers be put to shame and consumed;
let those who seek to hurt me be covered with scorn and disgrace.
But I will hope continually, and praise you yet more and more.
My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your
deeds of salvation all day long, through their number
is past my knowledge.
**I will come praising the mighty deeds of the
LORD GOD, I will praise your righteousness, yours alone.**

***A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH (1983):**

In life and in death we belong to God.

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the holy One of Israel,
Whom alone we worship and serve.**

We trust in Jesus Christ,

fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

**preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by the word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,

**Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal...**

With believers in every time and place,

**we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE RECEIVING OF TITHES, OFFERINGS AND PW BIRTHDAY OFFERING

DOXOLOGY:

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Almighty God,
receive the gifts we bring in gratitude for your
astounding goodness.
Make our lives to be an acceptable offering
in union with our risen Lord,
who lives and reigns with you forever.
Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN:**

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

#581

- 1. Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
equals partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.***
- 2. Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow , never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.***
- 3. Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.***
- 4. So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life,
that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.***

***BLESSING**

May your heart be turned to love.
May your breath be stirred to action.
May your life become a vessel of generosity.
And in all things, may we seek hope
continually and praise God more and more.

POSTLUDE

HOUSEHOLD PRAYERS

MORNING

Lord Jesus,
as I serve you this day,
let not my heart be troubled.
Help me to believe with conviction
that you are with me,
and I am in you,
and you are in God. Amen.

EVENING

Faithful God,
my rock and my fortress,
into your hands I commit my spirit.
As darkness falls,
let your face shine upon your servant,
and keep me in your steadfast love. Amen.