Order of Worship

18th Sunday after Pentecost

October 9, 2022

Call to worship (Psalm 66:1-5, 8-9)

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

Sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.

Say to God,

"How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you. All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name."

Come and see what God has done: He is awesome in his deeds among mortals.

Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.

Call to confession (From 2 Timothy 2:11-13)

"The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; If we endure, we will also reign with him; If we deny him, he will also deny us; If we are faithless, he remains faithful — He cannot deny himself."

So let us not deny our Lord, but faithfully confess the ways in which we have failed, placing our trust entirely in the faithfulness of Christ.



Prayer of confession (From 2 Timothy 2:8-15)

Lord of all, Eternally Faithful, we confess that we have denied you. We have hurt others with our wrangling of words. We have acted as if we are ashamed of your truth. Free your word within us, restore our faith. Rebuild what our careless and hurtful words have ruined. We pray this, confident in the one who if we are faithless, remains faithful, Christ Jesus. Amen.

Assurance of pardon (Psalm 66:10, 12b)

Pour water into the baptismal font.

The psalmist says, "For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried. We went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place." Truly the salvation that is in Christ Jesus is a spacious place, with eternal glory. Beloved of God, I declare to you the salvation of Christ Jesus is yours, as is the forgiveness of God.

Thanks be to God!

Prayer for illumination (from 2 Timothy 2:8-15)

Holy God, your Word cannot be chained. So, reveal to us your truth. By it, inspire us to renewed faith, and through it, guide us to work for you. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Sermon



Affirmation of faith (From A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit

who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage

to pray without ceasing,

to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,

and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,

we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Call for the Offering (From Luke 17:15-16)

Luke tells us, "Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus's feet and thanked him." So let us also return and give thanks, presenting a portion of what we have received from the generous hand of the Lord for God's own work.

Prayer of dedication (From 2 Timothy 2:15; Luke 17:15-16)

Christ Jesus, Author of our Salvation, we present ourselves to you as your workers, and we present our gifts and goods to you for your work, with praise on our lips and thanks in our hearts. Amen.



Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer (From Jeremiah 29:7)

Lord God, to whom we give our praise and thanks,

We know you do not leave those suffering disaster alone and bereft.

We remember the places struggling to survive disasters:

those suffering, injured and dying in the war in Ukraine;

those in Puerto Rico, Cuba and Florida, and others who have suffered the devastating destruction of hurricanes;

those still suffering the after-effects of the flooding in Pakistan;

those in Jackson, Mississippi, and everywhere at home and abroad who do not have safe drinking water;

those suffering and dying in the heat waves which continue to hit across the northern hemisphere;

[Here you may add those suffering other disasters which you or your congregation wish to name.]

Do not forsake them, but speak into these circumstances of suffering your word of hope, word of comfort, and word of life.

Lord, we seek and pray for your shalom, peace and prosperity for all the earth.

We remember the leaders of our state and communities,

grant them a spirit of courage, and faithfulness,

that they may work for the shalom of all those they serve.

We remember first responders

and all those bringing aid, support, and comfort to places of destruction and crisis,

grant them your strength, and be present in their work.

Lord, we seek and pray for your shalom,

peace and prosperity for all the earth.

We remember those who suffer in body and mind:

those discouraged or in pain,

those oppressed or in need,

those waiting and keeping watch,

calling on you for healing for themselves or their loved ones.

Lord, we seek and pray for your shalom,

peace and prosperity for all the earth.

We remember all the saints who have gone before us, our loved ones who have died, and we trust will live with you.

Make us also your workers unashamed of your truth.

Lord, we seek and pray for your shalom,

peace and prosperity for all the earth.

And we pray as Christ taught us, "Our Father... Amen."





Charge and benediction (From 2 Timothy 2:12; Jeremiah 29:7)

May God empower you to endure and to pray for and seek the *shalom*, the peace and prosperity, of your community and all the earth.

Go forth this week, children of God, as workers for the one who saves: God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit — the Mother, Master and Mover of us all. Amen.

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Liturgy written by Marilyn McKelvey Tucker-Marek, pastor of Forsyth Presbyterian Church in Forsyth, Georgia, and provided for free distribution.

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