



First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro

August 2, 2020 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Church Musician: Tsai-Wei Li; Elder Assisting: Judy Ray
Guest Preacher: Rev. Tom Coop

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Judy Ray

CALL TO WORSHIP

Wonderful is the God of Christ, who gathers the poor of the earth.

Glorious is our God, who wipes away the tears of sorrow.

Wonderful is the God of Christ, who gives inheritance to the meek.

Glorious is our God, who satisfies the hunger of the just.

Wonderful is the God of Christ, who gives mercy to the merciful.

Glorious is our God, who gives vision to the pure in heart.

Wonderful is the God of Christ, who adopts the peacemakers.

Glorious is our God, who lifts high the persecuted.

Wonderful is the God of Christ, who finds the lost.

Glorious is our God, who awakens the dead.

In that knowledge let us worship together, serving one another and serving our Mighty God. Amen.

HYMN #804

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart! (verses 1 & 3)

Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go,

From youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus, you taught us that in Your kingdom:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit” — but we have been rich in pride.

“Blessed are those who mourn” — but we have not known much sorrow for our sin.

“Blessed are the meek” — but we are rebellious by nature.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness” —

but we have great desire for evil and little longing for Your true goodness.

“Blessed are the merciful” — but we are harsh and impatient.

“Blessed are the pure in heart” — but we have impure hearts.

“Blessed are the peacemakers” — but we have not sought reconciliation.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness” —

but our lives do not challenge the world.

“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me” — but we have hardly made it known that we are yours.

Lord, have mercy on us and forgive us all of our sins.

Renew us and lead us by your Holy Spirit so that we may seek first your kingdom and Your righteousness and walk joyfully in the way of Your blessing. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God has called us and blesses us when we live God's ways and not the world's.
God's love embraces us even when we fall short of what God desires for our lives and actions.
Know that the God of blessing loves and forgives us with a fierce tenderness.
And in so knowing, may our lives and souls be transformed.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Tsai-Wei Li

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Judy Ray

Scripture

Psalms 51:7-13

Scripture

Matthew 5:1-8

Sermon

"Putting Your Inside World Right"

Rev. Tom Coop

OFFERING

You are invited to offer yourself and your resources in gratitude to God.

(You may mail in your monetary contributions to First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 26, Greensboro, GA 30642.)

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.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Give us, O God, this day: humility, so we can see you in the most vulnerable;
a cup to catch the tears of all who weep;
an arm for the long-suffering to cling to as they walk through life;
a broken heart which can heal those who have harmed us;
guilelessness which looks at the other and sees your beloved (not an object);
friendship which embraces those we are taught to fear;
hospitality which welcomes those who are ridiculed as they shadow you;
words of hope, of comfort, of grace whispered in the ears
of all who are slandered for your name.

We pray all these things in the name of Jesus the Christ, who taught us to pray saying:

***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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.***

COMMUNION HYMN #521

In Remembrance of Me

***In remembrance of me, eat this bread.
In remembrance of me, drink this wine.
In remembrance of me, pray for the time when God's own will is done.
In remembrance of me, heal the sick.
In remembrance of me, feed the poor.
In remembrance of me, open the door and let your neighbors in, let them in.***

***Take, eat, and be comforted; drink and remember too,
That this is my body and precious blood shed for you, shed for you.***

***In remembrance of me, search for truth.
In remembrance of me, always love.
In remembrance of me, don't look above, but in your heart, look for God.
Do this in remembrance of me.***

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN #364

Lift Up the Gates Eternal (verses 1 & 2)

*Lift up the gates eternal; lift up your voices;
The King of glory comes; the nation rejoices.
See, all the earth is God's, its people and nations;
God built it on the deeps and laid its foundations.
Lift up the gates eternal; lift up your voices;
The King of glory comes; the nation rejoices.
Who can go up this mountain, who stand in praising?
Those who are pure, who come with clean hands upraising.
Lift up the gates eternal; lift up your voices;
The King of glory comes; the nation rejoices.*

BENEDICTION

We welcome Rev. Tom Coop to our pulpit today. Rev. Coop is a retired PC(USA) pastor. He and his wife DeLynn have been a part of our church family for over a year. Sadly, for us, the Coops plan to relocate to Texas soon.

Coming Up:

Worship and other activities continue online only. Session will re-evaluate at our August 18 meeting.

Sunday School each week at **9:30 a.m.** on Zoom. All invited!

Continue Praying For:

Ann Corry	Franklin Latimer Roberts	Marie Kent
Bill Corry	Harrison Marcus	Mike Webb
Bill and Verley Dotson	Johnnie Satterfield	Family of Randy Quintrell
Brooke Manning-Hinds	Kenneth Pressley	Richard Aiken
Bruce Porter	Lori Howerton	Sam Marshall
Chris Penna	Marcus Pinson	Susie Pressley
Chuck Thorp	Marie Boswell	Nation & World Leaders
David Blough		Veterans & Military Members

Let us remember our church members and friends: As we offer intentional prayer, let us pray for:

Alex & Jan Brazier