



A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

May 9, 2021
11:00am
Sixth Sunday of Easter

PEACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

301 Guinness Drive ▪ Winterville, North Carolina 28590-9943 ▪ (252) 355-2273

www.peacepresbyterian.org

Grow in Grace, Live in Peace, Serve the Lord

We Gather as God's People

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is the day the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PRELUDE

America the Beautiful
Peace Handbell Quartet

MATERNA (arr. Larry Sue)

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 100

Mary Bennett-Billings, liturgist

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

*HYMN #1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea. Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see, Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Trusting in God's promises of grace, let us confess the truth of who we are. In God's mercy we will receive God's reconciling love and the renewal of our relationships with God and each other.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we are an anxious people who deny your blessings and fail to witness to gospel – the good news of your presence and your gifts of new life. You command us to love one another, reaching across our differences. Yet we respond with fear and judgment. Our selfishness and our agendas hinder your Spirit which is blowing among us and through us. Hear now our silent individual confessions.

(Silent Prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. By the power in whom we live and move and have our being, our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God whose mercy is everlasting.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Three Gnossiennes No 1

Eric Satie

We Share God's Word

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 9: 36-43

SERMON

"Tabitha's Story"

Reverend Debbie Osterhoudt

We Respond to God's Word

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From "A Brief Statement of Faith"

In life and death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the 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 God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

With believers of 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.

SOLO

Be Still and Know That I Am God
Peggy Vaughan, soprano

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND OUR 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.

We Go Forth As God's People

***HYMN #324**

For All the Faithful Women
(tune: Aurelia, No. 321)

For all the faithful women who served in days of old, to you shall thanks be given; to all, their story told. They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave. To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your power to save.

Lord, hear our praise for Dorcas, who served the sick and poor. Her hands were cups of kindness, her heart an open door. O God, for saints and servants, our fervent prayer we raise, that, faithful in your service, our lives may sing your praise.

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

May the Love of the Lord

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**May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.
May God's love dwell in you, throughout every day.
May God's countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you.
May God's Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.**

POSTLUDE

Three Gnossiennes No 2

Eric Satie

***You are invited to stand.**

Worship Leadership Debbie Osterhoudt, Preacher Mary-Bennett Billings, Liturgist
Peggy Vaughan, Music Director & Soloist John Holter, piano Ron Skinner, audio & video
Ushers: Margaret Cox, Ruth Hines, Joanne Lang Joanne Lang, Worship Ministry Team Chair