Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth E. Broschart, Heather Perryman, David Parris, Kent Shelton, Bernadine Hayes, Barry Cutright and Brenna Takata

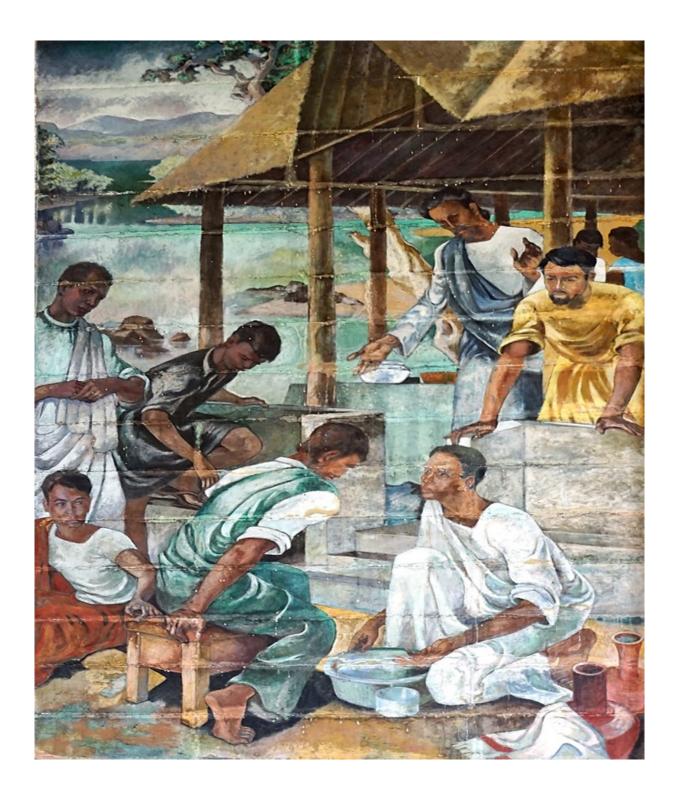
Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Dedication/Offering

You lift us to our feet so we can walk with you, Loving God, and you fill us with your gifts so we may pour them out for those around us. Take what we offer and use them in that kingdom work which strengthens the weary, feeds the hungry, and gives hope to the despairing. Amen.

Please place your tithes and offerings in the offering plates at the front of the Sanctuary as you enter or leave.

The flowers that enhance our worship are given in honor of the many healthcare workers by Fae Smith and family.



First Presbyterian Church

March 21, 2021

As the chimes ring in the worship hour, we invite people to enter a time of personal reflection and congregational worship. ***Please note: There will be no congregational singing.

Welcome and Invocation

"Five Short Settings of Amazing Grace" by Raymond H. Haas Prelude

Crossing the Threshold

"Enter the Story"

Enter

Enter the passion Enter the place we belong Not just looking on For this is *our* passion Enter the passion

Hymn "God. How Can We Forgive" GTG#445

A Time of Reflection

(people pray together)

Sometimes we just aren't paying attention.

We can keep our heads in the sand when we really need to attend to difficult situations, or the needs of your people.

Forgive us, O God.

Guard us from distancing ourselves, and help us to care for what's right in front of us. You entered our story through Jesus, now help us to enter fully into the story of your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Know this: Our lives contain continual opportunities to be in humble service to friends and strangers.

You are forgiven and freed, encouraged and loved by a God who wants you to live fully.

Telling the Story Through the Eyes of a Child

John 13: 3-16

Kent Shelton

Listening for the Story

Luke 4:16-21

GTG#506

Anthem

"The Upper Room" by Don Besig and Nancy Price

Dwelling in the Story

Prayers of the People

Turn your eyes upon Jesus

Look full on his wonderful face

And the things of earth will grow strangely dim In the light of his glory and grace

"Risking The Loss of Friendship" Sermon

"Look Who Gathers At Christ's Table" Hymn

"What Wondrous Love Is This-The Love of God" arr. Virginia Halberg Postlude

Benediction

God, How Can We Forgive

God, how can we forgive when bonds of love are torn? How can we rise and start anew, our trust reborn? When human loving fails and every hope is gone, your love give strength beyond our own to face the dawn.

When we have missed the mark, and tears of anguish flow, how can you still release our guilt, the debt we owe?

The ocean depth of grace surpasses all our needs.

A priest who shares our human pain, Christ intercedes.

Who dares to throw the stone to damn another's sin, when you, while knowing all our past, forgive again? No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live. As you, O God, forgive our sin, may we forgive.

Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table!

Look who gathers at Christ's table! Hear the stories that they bring. Some are weeping; some are laughing; some have songs that want to sing. Others ask why they're invited, burdened by the wrong they've done. Christ insists they all are welcome. There is room for everyone.

Clouds of light surround the table; ancient followers appear, saints confessing how they wrestled with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Peter tells of his denying Christ was ever in his sight; Paul relates his fruitless efforts to obliterates the light.

Their sad stories are repeated in a thousand different ways, but they share one thing in common: they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has invited north and south and east and west to converge around this table, where all life is fed and blest.

Bring your joy and bring your sadness, and prepare to be surprised by the host whose hands are wounded, who will open wide your eyes when he blesses bread and breaks it— truth and manna from above! — and then passes wine that wakens in your heart the taste of love.