Lord's Day Worship

November 14, 2021 *(Asterisk) indicates *Please stand as you are able.*

<u>PRAISE</u>

* Call to Worship

* Opening Hymn

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You"

<u>RENEWAL</u>

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

God our Father, you generously fill our lives with wonderful things. You bless us with friends, family, and wealth that most people in this world can't even imagine. We confess today that we are prone to love your good gifts far more than we love you. We covet and long for things you haven't given us, and we are filled with anxiety to think you might take away things or people we have come to love so much. Father, thank you for your deep and endless mercy to rebels like us. Help us to see our many idols, and incline our stubborn hearts to repent, placing our hope only in the shed blood of Jesus, your greatest gift. (silent prayer)

* Song "Turn Your Eyes"

4th Grade Bible Presentation – Orion Rutherford (11 a.m.)

Pastoral Prayer & 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.

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Offering & Song		"We Are an Offering"
New Testament Reading		Matthew 16:24-28
* Hymn		"Ancient Words"
Old Testament Reading		2 Samuel 1:17-27
Sermon	"Blessed to Be a Blessing"	

Prayer

* Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles' Creed (c. 3rd century)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy universal Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

- * Closing Song "God Whose Giving Knows No Ending"
- * Benediction
- * Dismissal

Church, where are you going?

We go forth to serve God's world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Glory to God!

As you prayerfully consider your financial support of Christ Presbyterian Church, I'd like to ask you a question: do you give out of duty or delight?

In the Book of Revelation (2:1-7), the church at Ephesus got a letter from Jesus. He commended them for their hard work, their endurance, and their refusal to tolerate immorality and false teaching. "But," said Jesus, "I have this against you, that you have *abandoned the love you* had at first." The warning is stern. The Lord even said he would remove their "lampstand" (His presence) if they did not repent and return to the love for Jesus they once had. They were scrupulously obedient, but their service to the Lord had become loveless; a duty instead of a delight. The lesson is simple. Jesus wants our hearts, not just our outward actions. Christ called his church to repent and "do the works you did at first." That is, love him first, and with our whole hearts, and all else will follow. Giving that pleases the Lord – whether of time, talent, or treasure - is all delight, not duty, because it grows out of love for Him.

Today is Stewardship Dedication Sunday. At the close of worship, you'll have the opportunity to place your pledge card on the table in front as an act of commitment. Your pledge is confidential and will be seen only by the Stewardship Elder. I do not see any of the pledges. If you cannot make a financial pledge this year, would you commit to pray regularly for our church?

As you give, remember 1 John 4:19: *We love because He first loved us.* Giving for the work of our Savior Jesus is 100% delight.



"...so that Jesus Christ might come to have first place in everything." Colossians 1:18 (b) NRSV

November 14, 2021 | Pastor Phil Moran "Blessed to Be a Blessing" Il Samuel 1:17-27

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