



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPENING PRAYER

Lord, your word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. We need not stumble in darkness, nor fear the night, because you have sent your Son to be the light of the world. In this time of worship, we ask to be illumined by your wisdom and your will through the power of your living word, read and proclaimed. Amen.

PRELUDE

A Mighty Fortress

Johann Christoph Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

CRE Susie Wright

ONE: Let us begin worship by reminding ourselves:

That it is not we who chose Christ,

ALL: but Christ who chose us.

ONE: That we are not here because of our own goodness,

ALL: but because of Christ's grace.

ONE: That we are not here to enlighten ourselves,

ALL: but to allow Christ to enlighten us.

ONE: That we have not come to be entertained,

ALL: but to worship God with all our heart, soul and mind.

***HYMN:**

The Lord Is God

No. 63

¹The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thanks, and praise to God, the maker of all things and giver of our days.

²With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and might, O people, love the Lord your God, the source of truth and light.

⁴The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thanks, and praise to God, the maker of all things and giver of our days.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Psalm 1 declares: "The Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish" (1:6). Recognizing that all our ways have not been righteous and that we have gone down wicked paths, we turn to our merciful God to confess our sin and ask for God's forgiveness. We confess first in silence; then together, as one. (*Silent Prayer*)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, we come to you with questions which assume our own righteousness as we quickly condemn others in your name. We do not take time to examine our own hearts and seek your will. We jump to conclusions and neglect a life of prayerful discernment. Forgive us, gracious God. Help us to humble ourselves before you and listen. Give us the courage to hear your corrective word and act upon it in ways that reveal our love for our Savior, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, in joy we proclaim that through Jesus Christ we are forgiven. The old life is gone, a new life has begun. Glory be to God! Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

MOMENT WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

All the Places to Love
by Patricia MacLachlan

ANTHEM

Melodie DuBose, Vocal Solo

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 22:34-40

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" ³⁷He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

SERMON

Aiming for the Center

Pastor Chip Hatcher

RESPONDING TO AND SEALING OF THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from The Westminster Shorter Catechism (1648), Question Two

ONE: What is the sum of the Ten Commandments?

ALL: The sum of the Ten Commandments is: to love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all our mind; and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (**BOLD-All say**)

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.

*HYMN

Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord

No. 707

³Take thou our wills, Most High! Hold thou full sway;
have in our inmost souls thy perfect way;
help us to shed abroad thy deathless love;
use us to make the earth like that above.

⁴Take thou our-selves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will;
through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill.
We yield ourselves to thee: time, talents, all;
we hear and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.

BENEDICTION

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and remain with you always. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Largo—Allegro Moderato

James H. Rogers

**Congregation standing, if comfortable to do so.*

PRAYER CONCERNS

The congregation is asked to pray for the members and friends listed each week, and those listed are asked to pray for our congregation. This week, please pray for **Marjorie Springston, Donna Leach, Pearl Campbell, Kristen La Madrid, Jill Lancaster, Susan Lascaro, Debi Lau, Donna Leach, Andy & Golden Lloyd, and Casey Lloyd, and for all the families who have lost or are affected by job losses due to Covid-19, for all those sheltering in place, and for all the dedicated individuals serving on the front-line.**

Arkansas Presbytery requests prayers for **First Presbyterian Church** of Helena and for **West End Presbyterian Church** of Arkadelphia.

REMEMBER **Our Country, our Leaders, our military, Erik Knebel and Adam Howell, the Eose and Ekema families in Cameroon, and Missionaries Jeff and Christi Boyd, Congo.**

MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN LONG-TERM RETIREMENT & HEALTH-CARE FACILITIES

Lake Hamilton Health & Rehab **Marjorie Springston**
West Shores.....**Rev. Jim Chaffin, Jim & Sybil Dowds, Juanita Winn, Ann Wood**
GHEC, 372 Old Brundage Rd., H. S. AR 71913 **Donna Leach**

OFFICE HOURS: The church office will maintain temporary hours (9-12 and 1-3) Monday thru Thursday. Services are being livestreamed on WPC Hot Springs YouTube and will be recorded to be uploaded to YouTube and to the church website, www.wpchotsprings.org.

OCTOBER DOLLAR GIVING will fund blankets to be donated to for use at Samaritan Ministries Men's Mission and at Potter's Clay Ministries to Women and Children. November thru January 2021 dollar giving is designated to purchase ceramic heaters for Jackson House to distribute to individuals with heating needs for the winter.

LIMITED IN-PERSON WORSHIP: The Session is asking that you make reservations for attendance to the **November 1** worship service by calling the church office **Monday, October 26, through noon Thursday, October 30.** The In-Person worship will be limited to 50 individuals. You must register by calling the church office prior to noon Thursday. **Reservations must be made every week by everyone.**