

Order of worship

October 4, 2020

**First
Presbyterian
Church** IN VICTOR

**WHOEVER YOU ARE.
HOWEVER YOU HAVE COME.
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.**

Prelude

Prelude in G by JS Bach

Welcome & Announcements

Call to worship*

Rev. Gloria Ulloa, Presbyterian Church of Colombia

We gather from the west to the east,
from the south to the north,
to celebrate the God of peace
who accompanies us in our acts of peace.
This God of peace accompanies us
in each and every circumstance around us.
We praise God's name! Amen!

Opening Hymn (Glory to God # 340)

This is My Song

Opening Prayer*

Rev. Lydia Neshangwe, Zimbabwe

Shona and English, adaptation of "A Non-Traditional Blessing" by Sister Ruth Fox

Mwari wedu (Our God who is)
Musiki wedu (Our Creator God)
Nyadenga wedu (Our Heavenly Father)
Bless us with discomfort at easy answers,
half-truths and superficial relationships.
Bless us with anger at injustice,
oppression and exploitation of people.
Bless us with tears to shed
for those who suffer from pain,
rejection, starvation and war.
Bless us with enough foolishness
to believe that we can make a difference in this world.
Muzita raBaba,
nere Mwanakomana,
nere Mweya Mutsvene.
(In the name of the Father
and the Son
and the Holy Spirit.)
Amen.

(cont. pg. 2)

Call to Confession*

**Armenian, Shant Agoushian, Near East School of Theology student,
Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East**

Faced with God's goodness we recognize our failings.
In the knowledge of God's mercy,
we dare tell the truth about ourselves and our world.
In the confidence of God's children let us confess our sins.

Confession*

**Arabic, Jameel Maher Khadir, Near East School of Theology student,
Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Holy Land**

Gracious Lord, creator of this universe,
in your generosity you have given us
a world of abundance and diversity,
yet we live guided by greed and selfishness.
We confess that we have defaced your creation
and poisoned our environment
through our consumerist behavior and for personal gain.
In Christ, you made us brothers and sisters
and intended for us to be united,
and yet we have built walls to separate us
from those who are different from us.
You gave us wisdom and creativity
and we have used those to trick each other
and to develop weapons of destruction and death.
You gave us laws to order our lives
and we have abused them
to take revenge and punish our enemies.
We love war rather than strive for peace.
We ignore the poor and the weak
and honored the rich and powerful.
In all this we have not lived according to your will.
Forgive us, Lord, for daring to boast in our human achievements
and for failing to recognize that you alone are worthy of praise.
In your mercy, forgive us our sins.

Assurance of Pardon*

**Armenian, Shant Agoushian, Near East School of Theology student,
Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East**

“God accepted us simply because of our faith in Christ,”
through whom our sins were forgiven.
May he help us to continue
to “preach peace to those who are near and far.” **Amen.**
(Phil. 3:9; Eph. 2:17)

Anthem

How Firm a Foundation, Arr. by John Rutter

(cont. pg. 3)

Scripture Lessons (Philippians 2:1-15)

Imitating Christ's Humility

2 If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, 2 make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. 5 Let the same mind be in you that was [a] in Christ Jesus,

6 who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
7 but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
8 he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
9 Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
10 so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
11 and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Shining as Lights in the World

12 Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. 14 Do all things without murmuring and arguing, 15 so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world.

Message

Walking Straight on a Crooked Path

Prayers of the People*

From every place on this planet,
we turn our face to you, O God.
Gather us, all your people, together, to pray.
In the midst of the forces which would separate us,
bind us in your love as the Church, together.
Strengthen us through the grace of your people gathered,
no matter how we gather,
with the truth of your presence.

In a world aching to be made new,
we cry out with those who suffer the pains
of what powers and principalities extract from the world's poorest.
We cry out with those suffering from illness and disease,
at whom the world turns a callous glance.
We cry out with those stinging from the sins of white supremacy.
We cry out with those seeking justice, equality, and peace —
peace, at all times, in all ways.

(cont. pg. 4)

Prayers of the People (cont.)*

In a world stretching toward wholeness,
we celebrate with those whose lives bear the fruit of your Spirit
and seek to share in your call to partnership.
We celebrate with those whose efforts are making the world new.
We celebrate with all who gather
to earnestly seek your transforming work in the world.

Make us a world that grows into the shape of your communion table,
where all are welcomed and all are fed.
Make us a people who grow your family
by practices of mutuality, generosity and justice.
And may we be found to be witnesses, when Jesus returns,
to the truth of who we were created to be —
people who belong to each other,
people who belong to you, O God,
in your Son, Jesus. **Amen.**

Service of the Lord's Supper*

Breaking of the bread:

We give thanks for this bread,
fruit of the earth and hard work,
a gift of the grace of God.
We break it and share it, remembering the words and actions,
gestures and glances,
silences and self-offered life
of the teacher from Nazareth.

And we give thanks for the fruit of the vine,
for the joy of communion,
for alliances that endure
in the search for justice and wholeness. We take the cup,
knowing we are part of a community-people
renewing its covenant with life.

Closing Hymn #513

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Benediction

Postlude

Marche Royale
By Jean-Baptist's Lully, arr. by Hal H. Hopson

* Liturgy written by Peace & Global Witness Office of the PC(USA), 2020.

First Presbyterian Church in Victor

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Rev. Colin Pritchard, Pastor
Ayn Patrowicz, Organist
Camila Ospina Fadul, Vocal Choir/
Bell Choir Director

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Announcements

October 4, 2020



In-Person Wednesday Eve Worship

We will be welcoming you to in-person worship in the sanctuary again this Wednesday, October 7 at 7:00 pm for our mid-week devotional service. This service is shorter in duration, does not include our full music staff, and provides a good format for us to establish and practice our safety protocols. Details about our safety plan, registration, and participant expectations were sent via email this week and can be found on our website. This will be limited, so **register early for your space**. Email the office if you have any questions.

New small group education opportunity

"HOW TO BE AN ANTIRACIST" by Ibram X. Kendi. Following the powerful learnings and growth from our last small group that studied "White Fragility", we are excited to continue the important work of addressing the racial realities of our contemporary experience. If you would like to join in the conversation, **please let Pastor Colin know asap**. Once we know who and how many people are interested we will coordinate a time to meet that works for you.

Youth Group opportunities

Youth Group opportunities are on the way. If there is a Jr/Sr High student in your home, keep an eye out for an invitation from Alfred and Pastor Colin.

Prayer requests

During Sunday worship and Wednesday evening prayer time on FB livestream, Pastor Colin invites you to share your prayer requests. If you would like to keep your prayer requests private or anonymous and not on this public forum, please message Pastor Colin directly at pastor@victorpres.org or call 585-734-7007.

Office Hours

Formal office hours are now Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10-2. Immediate concerns on other days can be emailed to Courtney Maltman at office@victorpres.org. The office email is checked regularly and we will get back to you asap.

