



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
16 EAST FIFTH STREET  
ROANOKE RAPIDS, NORTH CAROLINA

Website: [www.fpc-rr.org](http://www.fpc-rr.org)

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Church Office Hours: Wednesday – Thursday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

# SERVICE OF THE LORD'S DAY

JULY 5, 2020

ELEVEN O'CLOCK

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

ORGAN PRELUDE

*(Please use the prelude as a time to quietly prepare for worship)*

CHIMING OF THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Come to me, Jesus says. All who are weary,

**All: come to him.**

One: And you, who carry heavy loads,

**All: come to him.**

One: For he is gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

**All: Let us draw near to Jesus, whose yoke is easy and whose burden is light.**

OPENING PRAYER

One: We rejoice, O Christ, for in your tender compassion you shoulder our burdens and ease our heavy hearts. Give us the strength to carry each other as you have carried us.

**All: Amen.**

HYMN 331

*God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*

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CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we fill our lives with comfort and convenience, distractions that consume our energy and time. We chase after wealth and power as if they could satisfy the hunger in our souls. But you beckon us toward new life, a life made rich through Sabbath**

**and service. Free us from the yokes that bind us and draw us near to you, until we learn to walk with Christ.**

TIME FOR SILENCE

*(We ask for forgiveness for our individual faults)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE PEACE

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

‘But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,

“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not mourn.”

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, “He has a demon”; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, “Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!” Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.’

At that time Jesus said, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’

One: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

SPECIAL MUSIC

*God Bless America*  
soloist Denise Hackenburg

Irving Berlin

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

**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 Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**One:** Let us pray in the Spirit, who helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words. In the Spirit, we pray for the church . . . Enlighten us through the truth of your Word—hidden from the wise, revealed to infants—so that we may know and seek your gracious will. Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

**One:** In the Spirit, we pray for the earth . . . Look with love upon your whole creation: let the winter of destruction be past; let the springtime of healing begin. Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

**One:** In the Spirit, we pray for all nations . . . Gather all peoples at the oasis of your peace; help us to remember our common heritage, and pledge ourselves in love to one another. Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

**One:** In the Spirit, we pray for this community . . . Send us out into the streets and markets to proclaim good news to our neighbors and invite them to eat and drink with Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

**One:** In the Spirit, we pray for loved ones . . . Give rest to those who are weary and weighed down by heavy burdens. Hold them in your gentle hand. Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

**One:** In the Spirit, we pray to you, O God, confident that all things work together for good for those who love you and are called according to your purpose. Above all, we give you thanks, O

God, that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord and for teaching us to pray, Our Father ...

## LORD'S PRAYER

# BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

HYMN 338

*O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

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## CHARGE

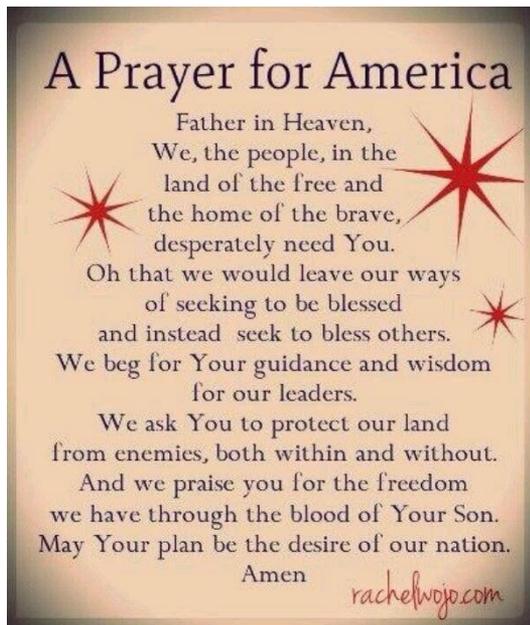
## BLESSING

**One:** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All:** **Alleluia! Amen.**

## CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

## POSTLUDE



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Thanks to Denise Hackenburg for her special music this morning!**

In its June 21 meeting the session of First Presbyterian Church decided to continue worship via livestream over Facebook and Youtube and not have in-person worship services until further notice. The session will continue to assess the safety of worshipping in person at its monthly meetings. The Worship Committee is looking forward to a time when in-person worship can be done safely and will meet soon to establish precautions when that occurs. In the meantime you can worship via livestream using one of two methods: Facebook at the "fpc Roanoke Rapids" Facebook page or YouTube using "First Presbyterian Church - Roanoke Rapids, NC Worship Service" in the YouTube search bar. A recorded version can also be found later on the church website—  
[www.fpc-rr.org](http://www.fpc-rr.org).

**All activities at the church have been canceled until further notice.**

Offerings can be made by mailing your checks to the church at 16 East 5th Street, RR, NC 27870 or placing them in the letter slot in the Administration Building. Although the church is not open physically, the work of the church continues, so please remember your offerings.

**The Witness Committee will meet via Zoom on Wednesday, July 8th, at 3:30 pm.**

Finance and Personnel will meet also via Zoom on Thursday, July 9th, at 6:00 pm.

# Prayers for Healing of Friends & Families of the Church

Priscilla Ricks  
Bill Howell  
Glenn & Gayle Garner, @ Meals on Wheels  
Sally Ray Warren  
David and LaNae Grimes  
Sandra Stephenson  
Mary Francis Fisher  
Harrison West

Ellen Burnett  
Diane Bone  
Eula Cutler  
B.T. Brown  
Susan Horrell  
Bill Davis  
Betsy Medlin  
Billy Green  
Linda Ray  
Roger Fuester  
Tim Hardy  
Frank Lonesky  
Jeff Peedin  
Amy B. Heybrock  
Doug Hayes  
Diana Dillard  
Dee Campbell  
Leenae Johnson  
Nancy Elias, Marie Anderson's sister, breast cancer  
Betty Thrower, Mary Small's sister, coronary by-pass surgery  
Jeff Dillard  
Roni Hackenburg

## Concerns Outside of our Community

- \*SYRIA and YEMEN
- \*SOMALIA, drought, famine, anarchy
- \*EGYPT and LIBYA, political unrest
- \*ISRAEL, PALESTINE, GAZA peaceful coexistence
- \*IRAQ, AFGHANISTAN, security
- \*USA, war in Syria, Iraq & Afghanistan
- \*NIGERIA, abducted Chibok school girls
- \*Ukrainian people victimized by foreign aggression
- \*People of Sudan
- \*Victims of gun violence in our country
- \*People who are effected by Covid-19

**Please take a look at our prayer list. If you have someone that needs to be on the prayer list or someone that needs to come off, please contact Tammy at [firstpresbyterianchurchrr@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyterianchurchrr@gmail.com) or call me at home (586-1818).**



## 331 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

(optional)

1 God of the a - ges, whose al - migh - ty  
 2 Thy love di - vine hath led us in the  
 3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti -  
 4 Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil - some

hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band  
 past. In this free land by thee our lot is cast.  
 lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense.  
 way. Lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day.

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,  
 Be thou our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay:  
 Thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease.  
 Fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.  
 thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.  
 Thy boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.  
 and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

This hymn was generated by 19th-century centennial celebrations: the words by the Declaration of Independence and the music by the adoption of the United States Constitution. Despite these origins, no specific nation is mentioned in this hymn of praise and prayer for peace.

## O Beautiful for Spacious Skies 338

1 O beau-ti-ful for spa-cious skies, for am-ber waves of grain,  
 2 O beau-ti-ful for he-roes proved in lib-er-at-ing strife,  
 3 O beau-ti-ful for pa-triot dream that sees be-yond the years

for pur-ple moun-tain maj-es-ties a-bove the fruit-ed plain!  
 who more than self their coun-try loved, and mer-cy more than life!  
 thine al-a-bas-ter cit-ies gleam, un-dimmed by hu-man tears!

A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed his grace on thee,  
 A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God mend thine ev-ery flaw;  
 A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! May God thy gold re-fine

and crown thy good with \*broth-er-hood from sea to shin-ing sea!  
 con-firm thy soul in self-con-trol, thy lib-er-ty in law!  
 till all suc-cess be no-ble-ness and ev-ery gain di-vine!

\*Or "servanthood"

This text (inspired by the vista from Pike's Peak and by a visit to Chicago's Columbian World Exposition) and tune (named MATERNA because it was composed for "O Mother, Dear Jerusalem") were joined in 1912. The combination proved immensely popular during World War I and afterwards.

TEXT: Katharine Lee Bates, 1893, alt.  
 MUSIC: Samuel Augustus Ward, 1882

MATERNA  
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