Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering

PRELUDE

Chorale and Fugue in D-major

Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

INTROIT

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Liebster Jesu

Blessed Jesus, at your word we have come again to hear you; Let our thoughts and hearts be stirred and in glowing faith be near you. By your gospel true and holy, teach us, Lord, to love you solely. T. Clausnitzer, trans. C. Winkworth

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

*HYMN 459

O Word of God Incarnate

Munich

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION read in unison

Holy God help us hear your convicting word. God of grace, prune us to embrace your word of grace and forgiveness. God of all comfort, move us to share your word of promise and redemption through Christ our Lord.

Time for silent prayer.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*RESPONSE HYMN 458 Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet

Thy Word



Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

*DISTRIBUTION OF BIBLES

Confirmands Jack Anderton Summer Grace Campbell Scott Davis

Doug Grissom, mentor Justina Powers, mentor Todd Lyles, mentor

Naomi Linville Wilson Masick Charlotte Pecceu

Laura Duane, mentor Jim Haynes, mentor Emily Burrice, mentor

Lillian Powers Samantha Rogers John Speiden

Kelly Gant, mentor Nancy Hubbard, mentor Tracy Walker, mentor

Avery Summers James Walker Ben Williams

Laura Diebold, mentor Will Duncan, mentor Lawrence Palmer-Ball, mentor

Children ages 3 through completed 3rd graders are welcome to come forward and be dismissed through the side door for activities following the Distribution of Bibles.



Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Isaiah 55:6–11

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING John 1:1–5, 9–18

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON A Strange New World Rev. Steve Jester

The Response

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH read in unison

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

You are invited to pass the Friendship Pad found at the end of the pew.

We welcome you to scan this QR code and visit the Giving page on our website. You can fulfill your pledges and offer your financial support for the ongoing ministries of Second Presbyterian Church. Thank you!

ANTHEM Open My Eyes K. Lee Scott

Open my eyes that I shall see; incline my heart and I shall desire; order my steps and I shall walk in the way of your commandments.

O God be my only Lord, and beside you let there be no one else, no other, none else but you. Teach me to worship you and serve you in all my undertakings with truth of spirit, with honor of body, with blessing of mouth, both in public and in private.

Open my eyes...

Lancelot Andrewes; K. Lee Scott, adapt.

*Doxology Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD 100TH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

^{*}Prayer of Thanksgiving

SHARING GRACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE read in unison

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.

The Sending

*HYMN 450

Be Thou My Vision

Slane

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE Allegro in D-minor

Felix Mendelsson

We are called to go out from our worship to share the grace of God with one another and the world. You are welcome to remain seated for the postlude or exit quietly.

In Worship Today

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

Our life is in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. The Bible is the written witness to Jesus Christ, therefore it is "The Word of Life." Our lives are claimed by God through our baptism. It is God's seal on who we are as the children of God, therefore it is "The Font of Identity." The Table is the center of our home in the Body of Christ, the place where we are welcomed, renewed, and strengthened for the life to which we are called, therefore it is "The Table of Sustenance."

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in honor of granddaughter Amelia Joy (San Antonio, TX) and Eleanor Kay (Dayton, OH) by Stan and Kitty de Voogd.

USHERS

Henry Kelsey, Sallye Pence, Jennifer Scott, Joe Gathright, Holly Gathright, Dixie Baird

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Steve Jester, preacher; Rev. Rich Gianzero & Rev. Jordan Akin, liturgists; Bella Tilford, lay reader

The Sanctuary Choir; Jim Rittenhouse, Director; Samuel Libra, Organist

Evan Vicic, Audiovisual Engineer; Elliott Nichols, Technology Coordinator

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We Lift Up in Prayer

Todd & Lindsey Anderson and their family on the death of his father, Dr. Todd Anderson, Sr., 9/13/22.

Heather Sexton, Cara Panther, and their families on the death of their father, Doug "Skip" Young, 9/5/2022.

Beth Blythe and her family on the death of her father, Stephen McDonald, 8/26/2022.

Nancy Newman and her family on the death of her mother, Mary Seaver, 8/15/2022.

George and David Wombwell, Cecy Brewer, and their families, on the death of wife, mother, and sister, Edie, 8/9/2022.

Barbara Morrow and her family on the death of her husband, John, 7/29/2022.

Mike Faurest and his family on the death of his mother, Ann, 7/18/2022.

Carol McCarty and her family on the death of husband Arthur ("Mac"), 7/22/2022.

The Ministry Team

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Paula S. Roberts

Organist Emerita



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Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

459 O Word of God Incarnate



The opening four lines of this hymn celebrate attributes of Christ that are revealed through holy Scripture, which serves as a lantern, a chart, and a compass for the church in seeking to know Christ better. The setting of the tune comes from Felix Mendelssohn's *Elijah*.