



Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church

Founded 1811

STUART H. SPENCER, Pastor • BAILEY HECKMAN, Associate Pastor
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WE GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

SILENT REFLECTION

“What a marvelous thing a promise is! When a person makes a promise, she reaches out into an unpredictable future and makes one thing predictable: she will be there even when being there costs her more than she wants to pay. When a person makes a promise, he stretches himself out into circumstances that no one can control and controls at least one thing: he will be there no matter what the circumstances turn out to be. With one simple word of promise, a person creates an island of certainty in a sea of uncertainty.”

Lewis Smedes, *A Chorus of Witnesses*

PRELUDE

Colton Martin

Allein Gott in der Höh' sei Ehr' (BWV 715)

J.S. Bach

(Text: “To God alone, on high, be glory and thanks for His mercy, since now and forevermore no harm can touch us.”)

This chorale-prelude is the first in this Sunday's Trinitarian selections.)

*CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Lamentations 3)

Bob Auwarter

Let us prepare to worship Almighty God. Remember this: The unfailing love of the Lord never ends!

By God's mercy, we are kept and we are held in God's love.

Great is His faithfulness; God's mercies begin afresh each day. I will say to myself, “The Lord is my inheritance; therefore, I will hope in Him.”

The Lord is wonderfully good to those who wait for Him and seek Him. So it is good to wait quietly for salvation from the Lord.

For the Lord does not abandon us. No, by the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, is with us here. Let us worship God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 39

FAITHFULNESS

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

WE ARE RENEWED THROUGH GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Bob Auwarter

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Our gracious God and heavenly Father, we come confessing who and what we are. We are often unresponsive, for we are afraid. When your Spirit speaks, we turn deaf ears, for we fear what you might call us to do. When your Spirit touches our lips, we close our mouths, embarrassed to speak out your Word. When the wind of the Spirit blows, we close the windows

of our hearts, afraid the breeze will disrupt our ordered lives. Forgive us, Lord, for our closed minds, hearts, and lives. By your loving grace, open us fully to all that you have for us. We pray these things in Jesus' name and for His sake. Amen.

(Silence for our personal confession to Almighty God.)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON (based on Romans 8:1-2)

Those who enter into the life of Jesus Christ no longer have to live under a continuous, low-lying black cloud. A new, gracious power is in operation.

The Spirit of Jesus, like a strong wind, has magnificently cleared the air, freeing us from the tyranny of sin and death. Amen.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE NO. 581

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)

Glory Be to the Father

*GREETING

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Stuart Spencer

WE HEAR GOD'S POWERFUL WORD

ANTHEM

Canticle of Faith

Adult Bell Choir
Cynthia Dobrinski

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Bailey Heckman

(Children from age four through second grade are dismissed to Junior Church.)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Hebrews 12:1-4 (pp. 226-227)

SERMON

"Faithfulness: Not Going Anywhere"
Sermon Series: The Fruit of Your Life

Stuart Spencer

*CHORUS OF PRAISE NO. 718

BOURBON

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS AND OUR PRAYERS

THE WORK OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Bailey Heckman

OFFERTORY

Jesus, meine Zuversicht (BWV 728)

Colton Martin
J.S. Bach

(Text: "Jesus Christ, my sure defense" recognizes the Sonship of our Lord as the second person of the Trinity.)

*DOXOLOGY (HYMN NO. 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

WE GO OUT WITH GOD'S COMFORT

*SENDING HYMN NO. 42

WINCHESTER NEW

Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Colton Martin

Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist (BuxWV 209)

D. Buxtehude

(Text: "We now implore the Holy Ghost" is a hymn whose first stanza is reminiscent of the 13th-century Latin sequence *Veni, Sancte Spiritus*, traditionally sung on Pentecost.)

**Those who are able, please stand.*

"THE FRUIT OF YOUR LIFE:" A SERMON SERIES ON THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT – Pastors Spencer and Heckman are preaching on this topic until Sunday, **June 12**. (The series began on Sunday, **April 10**.) *The fruit of the Spirit* is a Biblical term that sums up nine attributes of a Christian life, according to Paul: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23). This fruit appears by faith in Christ and from the patient work of surrendering our will and pride to the Lord. Ask for God's help to grow this fruit in your life.

Session Highlights: April/May 2016

Our April meeting began with a study of prayer, led by Pastor Spencer. Stuart introduced the use of Prayer Beads as a way of asking for God to grow the fruit of the Spirit in our lives or of surrendering our sins by praying over the seven deadly sins each day.

In April/May our Session took the following actions: heard updates on the Strategic Plan Initiatives; approved the Baptism request for Nicole Nichols, daughter of Kerry and Tyler Nichols, for June 19, 2016; and received into membership the members of the 2016 Confirmation and Commissioning Class (Grace Berry, Ben Green, Harry Green, Aaron Hafner, Robbie Kay, and Jimmy O'Donnell).

The Session Retreat will be held on Saturday, May 21, at the Titusville Presbyterian Church.

If you have a suggestion for types of information you would like to see included on a regular basis, please let me know. Place the suggestion in my TMPC mailbox or send me an e-mail (bauwarter@comcast.net).

In His Service,
Bob Auwarter, Clerk of Session