

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of MASON CITY, IOWA

October 18, 2020

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Among the poor, among the proud,
among the persecuted, among the privileged,

Christ is coming to make all things new.

In the private home, in the public place,
in the wedding feast, in the judgment hall,

Christ is coming to make all things new.

That the kingdom might come, that the world might believe,
that the powerful might stumble, that the hidden might be seen,

Christ is coming to make all things new.

Within us, without us,

behind us, before us,

in this place and in every place,

Christ is coming to make all things new.

HYMN "O Sing a New Song to the Lord"

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing, all the earth and bless that Name;
From day to day God's praise record; the Lord's redeeming grace proclaim.

Let every tongue and every tribe give to the Lord due praise and sing;
All glory unto God ascribe; come, throng God's courts, and offerings bring.

Let heaven be glad, let earth rejoice; the teeming sea resound with praise;
Let waving fields lift high their voice, and all the trees their anthem raise. Alleluia!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, if we conceal your love because our pursuit of other priorities
prevents us from seeing and serving people in need:

forgive us.

If we conceal your compassion because of our prejudice and intolerance:

forgive us.

If we conceal your mercy because of hard and unforgiving attitudes:

forgive us.

If we conceal your truth through our lack of credible witness:

forgive us.

If we conceal your glory because all we reflect is our own self-centeredness:

forgive us, O God.

Cleanse our lives of all selfish attitudes of mind and heart

so that your transforming power is revealed

in and through all we do and say and are;

for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

MOMENT WITH CHILDREN

PSALTER Psalm 15 *(Adapted from Hebrew by Stephen Mitchell)*

Lord, who can be trusted with power,
and who may act in your place?
Those with a passion for justice,
who speak the truth from their hearts;
who have let go of selfish interests
and grown beyond their own lives;
who see the wretched as their family
and the poor as their flesh and blood.
They alone are impartial
and worthy of the people's trust.
Their compassion lights up the whole earth,
and their kindness endures forever.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 5: 1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down,
his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against
you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in
the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

SERMON "Blessing and Being Blessed"

ANTHEM "Blessed Are You"

*Blessed are you that are poor; for yours is the kingdom of God.
Blessed are you that are hungry now; for you shall be filled.
Blessed are you that mourn now; for you shall be joyful.
Blessed are you that seek peace; for you shall be called the Children of God.
Blessed are you when men hate you, and cast you away, and speak evil of you:
Rejoice and be glad, for you are the salt of the earth.
You are the light of the world.
Let your light shine before us, that we may see your good works,
And glorify your Father which is in heaven.*

PRAYERS

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.

OFFERING

RESPONSE "We Lift Our Voices (We Are An Offering)"

We lift our voices; we lift our hands;
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands;
Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices; we lift our hands;
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering.

BLESSING

RESPONSE

God be with you till we meet again, God be in you, go in peace.
Loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you.
God be with you till we meet again, God be in you, go in peace.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Camille Lee, piano; Dennis Lee, vocals
The Rev. Paul Collier, pastor
Nate Ruge, reader, video recorder & editor

"O Sing a New Song to the Lord"

Words: *The New Metrical Version of the Psalms*, 1909, alt.
Music: GONFALON ROYAL Percy C. Buck, 1918.

"Blessed Are You"

Words: Adapted from Luke 6: 20-23, Matthew 5: 3-16
Music: Emma Lou Diemer ©1970 Carl Fischer, Inc.

"We Are An Offering"

Words & Music: Dwight Liles, 1984. ©1984 Word Music, LLC.

"God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

Words: Based on Jeremiah Eames Rankin.
Music: Based on BEACH SPRING, arr. Dale Woods. ©1996 The Sacred Music Press.

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