



Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

July 31, 2022 Ordinary 18C



*The prayers today were written by Pastor Stuart.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Gracious God, we gather in Your Son's Name and seek to praise You from our hearts.

People: We are blessed to be Your children and called to be Your servants.

Pastor: Let us gladly worship God and glorify Jesus our Lord. Amen.

HYMN #837 "What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"

PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

Guide: Loving Creator, Who made everything that we can know or see, we are amazed by Your good works and humbled by Your almighty power. You are the Supreme Being in this universe and Highest Sovereign that we can ever serve. Please receive our worship with gladness; please hear our prayers with kindness.

People: Merciful Lord, we call ourselves Christians and servants of Your Kingdom, but we admit to being selfish and foolish, mistaken and imperfect. We know Your ways, but we still pursue our own paths; we are aware of Your words, but we still follow our own opinions. Forgive us for setting aside our faith in order to please ourselves, satisfy our desires, and fulfill our wants. Pardon us for neglecting to do good, especially when we are too busy. Hear us now as we humbly confess our sins.

- *Silent Confessions* -

Guide: Heavenly Father, thank You for giving Your Son Jesus the power to forgive our sins. In Him we trust, and through Him we seek to live better and more worthy lives. Hear us now as we say His sacred words of prayer: "***Our Father, Who art in Heaven...***" **"THE LORD'S PRAYER"** (debts/debtors)

PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL

Guide: When we sincerely confess our mistakes to God, Christ advocates on our behalf and absolves us from the offences we have made against God. So let us rejoice and be glad, for Jesus restores us completely to God's favor and love. Amen.

ANTHEM "Morning Has Broken" Nancy Berry, organ

PRAYER FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

Pastor: Lord God, we all need kindness and healing, friendship and love, in our lives. Sometimes we feel separate from others and alone in this world. We are tired and weary, too, especially when the world seems unstable due to war, want, and waste. Be near to us, Lord, and fill us with Your strength so that we may continue to grow in hope, faith, and love.

People: Gracious Parent, we also pray for those loved ones and friends who need Your help right now. Some of them are dealing with grief, loss, and heartaches. Others are enduring pain, weakness, and confusion. There are some who are battling addiction, experiencing anxiety, or carrying depression. Be near to them and love them dearly. Restore their health and allow them to know of Your healing from all that harms them in body, mind, heart, and soul. Hear us now as we silently pray.

- Silent prayer for others and ourselves. A candle is lit. -

Pastor: May God's goodness fulfill our hopes and strengthen our lives. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Reader: Holy Spirit, may these sacred words penetrate our hearts and minds. May Christ's lessons of love embrace and encourage our souls. In Christ's Name, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 55:6-9

6-7 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

ALL: This is the Word of the Lord. Amen.

Matthew 18:21-35

21-22 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."

23-25 "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay,

the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt."

26-27 "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go."

28-29 "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'"

30-31 "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened."

32-34 "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed."

35 "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

MESSAGE "Forgive Our Debts" Rev. John Stuart, Pastor

CLOSING HYMN #829 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

BENEDICTION *May Christ encourage us to share His Gospel each day; may the Father guide our decisions and bless our deeds; and may the Holy Spirit continue to lead us in worship of the One, Triune, and Living God, both now and forever. Amen.*

POSTLUDE "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" by Janet Linker

ERIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

Unified in Christ, we actively seek to create harmony in a diverse community through compassion, mutual respect and love.

Pray for one another....

If you need prayer email us at admin@erinpresbyterian.org

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Hayden Crisp
Connor Quinn
Carolyn Gahan
Emme Ritchie
Konnor Stump
Keegan Stump
Henry Thomas Ritchie

Anna Bornhoeft
Jack Draper
Savannah Bilbrey
Harter Crisp
Colton Pennington
Katie Bailes

Peter Freter
Carson Matthews
Garrett Pittman
Lauren Gahan
Chloe Levering

OUR CONGREGATION

Bill Brazelton and Family
Larry McKay
Kathy Erskine

Cathy Van Ostrand
Karen Stump
Gary Pennington

Gary Pennington
Sonja DuBois

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF OUR CONGREGATION

Seth Turnbow (son of Cynthia and John House) Sophia Cyr (April and Matthew Cyr)
Terry McKay (Larry McKay) Pat Katel (Evelyn Stuart) Sarah Ryg (Nicola Bone)
Sandra Quinn (Buster Quinn) Lisa Perry (Friend of Stuarts)
Melanie Cobb (Erin McCallum) Barbara Bird (friend of the Kisers)
Phyllis Haulsee (Nicole Waters) Margie & Ron Collins (Suzanne Levering)

MILITARY

Cade Quinn (Son of Buster and Apryl Quinn)
Zach and Noah Enix (Cousins of Nicole Waters)
Gabe Edwards (Cousin of Buster Quinn)

FOLLOW-UP READINGS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Isaiah 33:1-12	Isaiah 33:13-24	Isaiah 34:1-17	Isaiah 35:1-10
Romans 12:1-10	Romans 12:11-21	Romans 13:1-14	Romans 14:1-12
FRIDAY	SATURDAY		SUNDAY
Isaiah 36:1-12	Isaiah 36:13-22		Psalms 34:15-22
Romans 14:13-23	Romans 15:1-16		2 Corinthians 1:3-11

BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK

Isaiah 55:6 "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near."

One of the reasons why we come to church is to be in the sacred presence of God. Throughout the week, we may have been very busy and preoccupied with other things, so on Sundays, God calls us to gather as a church to receive the blessing of Christ's attention and company. This is why Jesus once said, ***"Where two or three are gathered in my Name, I am in the midst of them."*** 😊