



First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro
August 23, 2020 – 10:30 a.m.

THE VISION OF GOD

*Please sign the online Welcome Pad.
Let us prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.*

Gathering Music: Hymn No. 475 – *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

(SEE PAGE 2)

Welcome, Invitation and Congregational Life

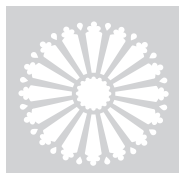
Dolly Jacobs

Call to Worship

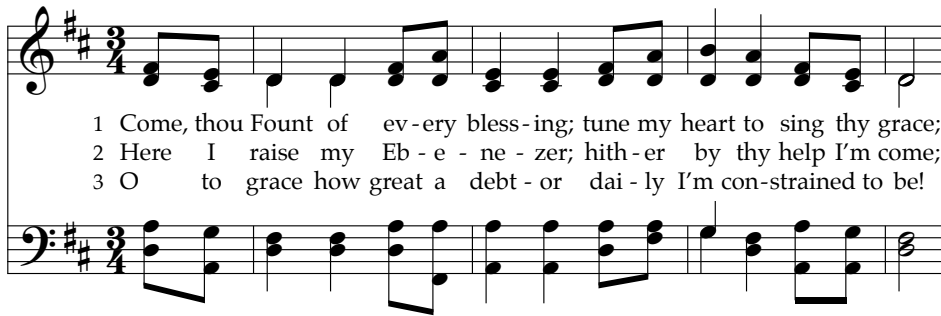
One: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness.
Come into God's presence with singing!

**All: For the Lord is a gracious God,
whose mercy is everlasting;
and whose faithfulness endures to all generations.**

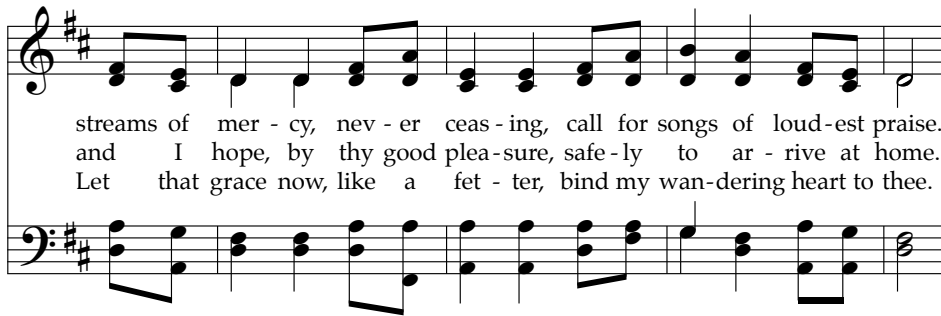
– from Psalm 100



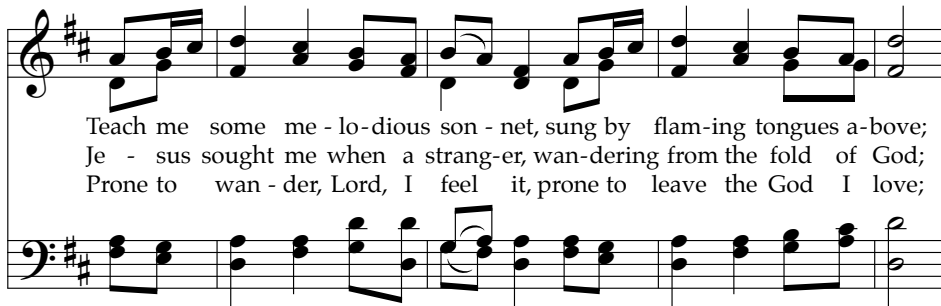
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



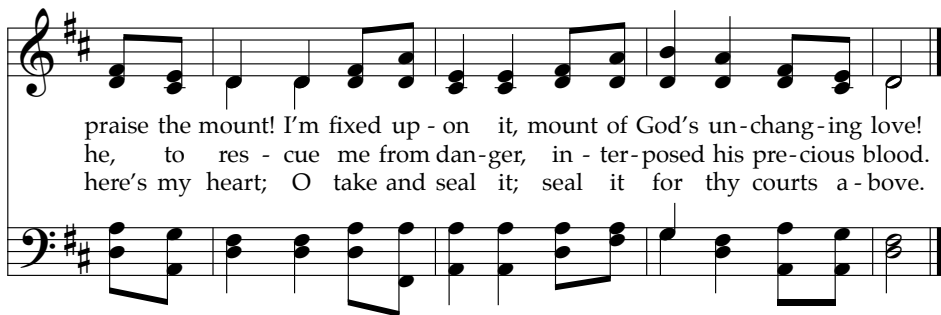
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;
3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

Song of Praise: Hymn No. 154 – *Jesus Entered Egypt*

KING'S WESTON

Capo 5: (Am) (G) (Am) (C) (Am) (Dm) (Am)
 Dm C Dm F Dm Gm Dm



1 Je - sus en - tered E - gypt flee - ing Her - od's hand,
 2 Je - sus was a mi - grant liv - ing as a guest
 3 Je - sus cross - es bor - ders with the wan - dering poor,

(C) (G) (Am) (C) (Dm)
 F C Dm F Gm



liv - ing as an a - lien in a for - eign land.
 with the friends and strang - ers who could of - fer rest.
 search - ing for a ref - uge, for an o - pen door.

(G) (Em) (Am) (G) (D) (G)
 C Am Dm C G C



Far from home and coun - try with his fam - i - ly,
 Do we hold wealth light - ly so that we can share
 Do our words and ac - tions an - swer Je - sus' plea:

(Am) (G) (Em) (Dm) (C) (G) (Am)
 Dm C Am Gm F C Dm



was there room and wel - come for this ref - u - gee?
 shel - ter with the home - less, and a - bun - dant care?
 "Give the low - ly wel - come, and you wel - come me"?

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Call to Confession *and* Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

– from Book of Common Worship 1993

A brief period of silence is reserved for personal confession.

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE WORD OF GOD

The Word Read: *Matthew 2:13-23*

Lorie Jones

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was

heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

A Time for Children

Kevin Murray

The Word Read: *Exodus 1:8-2:10*

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

The Word Read *continues, over*

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

The Word Proclaimed: *A Story of Life*

Keith Dove

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Song of Response: Hymn No. 69 – *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

HERE I AM

G Am D G C G D
Leader or All

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

G Em C Am7 D G

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est

Am D G C G D

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

G Em C Am7 C/G D D7

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain All G C G D G C G D G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Am7 G Am7 D G C G C

call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

G C G D G Am7 D7 G Am7 G

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Affirmation of Faith

Alexandra Mauney

We believe that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream; that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.

We believe that, in obedience to Jesus Christ, its only head, the church is called to confess and to do all these things, even though the authorities and human laws might forbid them and punishment and suffering be the consequence.

Jesus is Lord.

– from the Confession of Belhar

Prayers of the People

Leader: And now, with one voice as we make our pastoral search journey,
let us pray:

People: Almighty God, we ask your guidance and clear discernment for our Pastor Nominating Committee and for this congregation as we seek a new pastor for our family of faith. Be present in all deliberations; make all aware of your will for us; and keep us mindful of our calling to serve you in faithful ministry and mission through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

followed by 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.

Call for the Offering

Please participate in the offering by giving online at fpcgreensboro.org/give or by mailing your gift to the church at 617 N. Elm St., Greensboro, NC 27401.

Music for Meditation: *Magnificat*

Martha Bassett

Rejoice! Ensemble

And Mary said...

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
Doth magnify the Lord,
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God, my savior.

He hath regarded my low estate
And holy is his name.
For he that is mighty hath done great things
And holy is his name.

For behold,
All generations shall call me blessed.

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
Doth magnify the Lord,
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God, my savior.

Charge and Benediction

Keith Dove

Song of Sending: Hymn No. 700 – *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

I'M GONNA LIVE

1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)
 2 I'm gon-na work so (work so) God can use me an - y -
 3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)
 4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!
 (an - y - time!)
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 gon-na

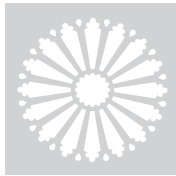
live so (live so)
 work so (work so) God can use me an - y -
 pray so (pray so)
 sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!
 (my Lord,) (an - y - time!)

Today's Worship Leaders

Dolly Jacobs, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Keith Dove, Sid & Cathy Batts Pastoral Resident
Alexandra Mauney, Sid & Cathy Batts Pastoral Resident
Kevin Murray, Director of Youth Ministry
Lorie Jones, Lay Reader
James Keith, Associate Director of Music Ministry for Rejoice!
the Rejoice! Ensemble

Music reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net A-707283.



THE MINISTRY OF MEMBERS – Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church. *Such involvement includes:* • proclaiming the good news in word and deed; • taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation; • lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support; • studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life; • supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time and talents; • demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church; • responding to God's activity in the world through service to others; • living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life; • working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment; • participating in the governing responsibilities of the church; • and reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one's membership, and considering ways in which one's participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful.

(from the Book of Order)

WE WELCOME YOU to the worship of God and to our community of faith.
We are a church of growing disciples believing that worship
is at the center of all we are and do as Christians.

WORSHIP AND STUDY DURING CAMPUS

CLOSING: Our church campus will remain closed until early October. Our Sunday Livestream service will be available on our home page, fpcgreensboro.org, and also on our live streaming page, fpcgreensboro.org/streaming-live.

WHILE THE CAMPUS IS CLOSED, PLEASE JOIN US FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION ONLINE

- ▷ On our [home page](#), messages on our North Elm Notes blog from pastors and staff.
- ▷ On our [DIGITAL FORMATION](#) page, you will find the latest online ministry for all ages.
- ▷ Our [DIGITAL FORMATION LIBRARY](#) offers videos, special studies, children's programs, and more you may have missed.

SECUREGIVE MOBILE APP – In addition to giving online (fpcgreensboro.org/give), you can download the SecureGive mobile giving app for [Apple](#) 🍏 or [Android](#) 🤖 (*scroll over for clickable links*). You can use the app as a guest or create an account. It's quick, easy, secure, and allows you to make a donation using a bank card.

TEXT-TO-GIVE: Give from your phone via text. [See full instructions here.](#)

FIND FIRST PRESBYTERIAN ON SOCIAL MEDIA – Members are sharing great photos, comments and more! Follow and Like us on Facebook (search "First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro"), Youtube ("fpcgreensboro") and Instagram ("1stpresgso") to get more of our posts in your newsfeed. Click on these links:



We will continue to update you regularly and adapt as things change. Please keep in touch:

- **IF YOU HAVE A PASTORAL EMERGENCY**, contact the Pastor on Call at 336.908.8615. Leave a message with your phone number.
- **CHECK OUR MEMBER RESOURCES PAGE** for our online directory, staff list, and other information.
- **SIGN UP FOR OUR WEEKLY E-NEWS AND OUR THURSDAY MORNING SUNDAY PREVIEW** on our [Connect](#) page.
- **SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS:** Text FPCGSO to 41411 and follow the instructions to opt in. (*Standard text rates may be applicable based on your individual carrier.*)

ELDER ORDINATION & INSTALLATION SERVICE, TONIGHT AT 6 PM

Tonight at 6 pm, our new class of elders will be ordained and installed during a special online service. The service will be set up as a webinar via Zoom, which allows only the service participants to share video and audio. If you have questions, please contact [Rev. Alexandra Mauney](#).

NEXT SUNDAY: Traditional Sanctuary worship service, with Danny Massie preaching and music from the Chancel Choir Ensemble. During worship, we will recognize this year's ordained and installed elders. In church school, Danny concludes a video study of the Book of Ruth.

PRAYERS FOR PARENTS: Sunday evenings, we offer a simple prayer with a Bible verse on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). This week we pray for parents who are missing their own parents. Parents can also find support in our [new Facebook group](#), First Pres Parents. [More info here.](#)