a liturgy for corporate worship HARVEST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH July 18, 2021

"A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly."

He who is forgiven little, loves little.

Remember therefore from where you have fallen.

~ the words of Jesus (*Luke* 7.41-43 & 47 & *Revelation* 2.5)

If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.

~ The Apostle John (1 John 4.20)



The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ~ Luke 10.2

HARVEST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) worship, nurture & service

here we sing, here we pray, here we tell our children who they are. (Marilumpo Robinson)

(Marilynne Robinson, "Jack")

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July 18, 2021 a day of rest

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Almighty God, the source of every good prayer, who pours out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and supplication: deliver us, when we draw near to you, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(adapted from the Book of Common Worship)

Call to Worship

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

Let us, therefore, worship the LORD together.

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Psalm 121

Psalm 121

I lift my eyes up, up to the mountains. Where does my help come from? My help comes from you, maker of heaven, Creator of the earth.

Oh how I need you, Lord. You are my only hope; you are my only prayer. So I will wait for you to come and rescue me; To come and give me life.

Brian Doerksen, 1990

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's Name. He has hushed the law's loud thunder. He has quenched Mt. Sinai's flame. He has washed us with his blood. He has washed us with his blood. He has washed us with his blood. He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us, pitied us when enemies, Called us by his grace and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes! He has washed us with his blood. He has washed us with his blood. He has washed us with his blood. He presents our souls to God.

Let us sing though fierce temptation threatens hard to bear us down. For the Lord our strong salvation, holds in view the Conqu'ror's crown! He who washed us with his blood, He who washed us with his blood, He who washed us with his blood soon will bring us home to God!

Let us wonder grace and justice join and point to mercy's store. When, through grace, our trust in Christ is justice smiles, and asks no more. He who washed us with his blood, He who washed us with his blood, He who washed us with his blood has secured our way to God!

(song continues on the next page ...)

Let us praise and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high. Here they trusted him before us – now their praises fill the sky! You have washed us with your blood. You have washed us with your blood. You have washed us with your blood. You are worthy Lamb of God!

> Words: John Newton, 1779 Music: Laura Taylor, 2001

We come, O Christ, to Thee

We come, O Christ, to Thee, true Son of God and man, By whom all things consist, in whom all life began: In Thee alone we live and move And have our being in Thy love.

Thou art the Way to God, Thy blood our ransom paid; In Thee we face our Judge and Maker unafraid. Before the throne absolved we stand: Thy love has met Thy law's demand.

Thou art the living Truth! All wisdom dwells in Thee, Thou Source of every skill, Eternal Verity! Thou great I Am! In Thee we rest, True answer to our every quest.

Thou only art true life, to know Thee is to live The more abundant life that earth can never give: O Risen Lord! We live in Thee And Thou in us eternally!

We worship Thee Lord Christ, Our Savior and our King, To Thee our youth and strength adoringly we bring: So fill our hearts that men may see Thy life in us and turn to Thee!

> Words: Margaret Clarkson, 1957 Music: John Darwall, 1770

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

- I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell*. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
- I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic^{**} church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* 'hell' here means the realm of death, not 'place of eternal torment' ** 'catholic' here means 'universal'

Doxology

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

Pastoral Prayer

Doug Zimbelman, elder

The Offering

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. (2 Corinthians 8.9) **The Preaching of God's Word** "Ephesus"

Revelation 2.1-7

¹ To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: "The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands.

² "I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. ³ I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. ⁴ But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵ Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. ⁶ Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

⁷ "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God."

Prayers of Response

Let us respond to God's Word with a few moments of silent prayer, and then we will join together in our song of assurance ...

Your Labor is Not in Vain

Your labor is not in vain, Though the ground underneath you is cursed and stained. Your planting and reaping are never the same, But your labor is not in vain.

Your labor is not unknown, Though the rocks they cry out and the sea it may groan. The place of your toil may not seem like a home, But your labor is not unknown.

For I am with you. I am with you. I am with you. I am with you. For I have called you, called you by name; Your labor is not in vain.

The vineyards you plant will bear fruit. The fields will sing out and rejoice with the truth. For all that is old will at last be made new. The vineyards you plant will bear fruit.

The houses you labored to build Will finally with laughter and joy be filled. The serpent that hurts and destroys shall be killed And all that is broken be healed.

Isaac Wardell, Paul Zach & Wendell Kimbrough, 2017

The Covenant Meal

The elements of bread and wine are simple and yet by God's power and his Spirit's blessing are both a sign and seal of God's love. For those who are not believing in Jesus, this meal is a sign of the sacrificial love of Jesus for those who acknowledge their need of him. For those who are believing in Jesus, this is not only a sign of these things, it is also a seal to their hearts, that indeed the Gospel is true and that his love for them is real.

We invite you to allow one or more of the following prayers to guide your mind and heart during our celebration of the Lord's Supper this morning:

Searching for Truth ...

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might not be discouraged by the cost of following you, but drawn to you by a sight of your loving sacrifice for me. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Help me to be honest in my search, and give me an understanding of you that fits together and leads to life.

Ready to believe Christ ...

Lord Jesus Christ, I confess that I am weaker and more sinful than I dare admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I can hope or imagine. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me your complete righteousness. Knowing that you have been raised as Victor over sin, I turn from my sins and receive your grace in my life. Help me to rest in you.

Struggling with sin ...

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the True and Living Bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race before me, looking only unto you, the Author and Perfecter of my faith, one day, one hour, at a time.

Non-communing members (those not yet prepared to take the Supper)

Lord Jesus, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you, and to follow you as a faithful disciple.

Desiring deeper commitment to the Church ...

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. You have called me not to exist alone, but to be a vital member of your Body, the church. Grant that I may take the steps necessary to be one with your people and to live in the fullness of fellowship with your Spirit.

Rejoicing in God's provision ...

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I am overwhelmed and delighted by your mercies to me: a sure and certain salvation in Jesus, restored relationship with the God of heaven and earth, daily supplies of compassion, kindness, grace and strength – thank you. Further enable me to live in light of your glory and goodness.

The Parting Hymn

All I Have is Christ

I once was lost in darkest night, yet thought I knew the way. The sin that promised joy and life had led me to the grave. I had no hope that you would own a rebel to your will. And if you had not loved me first I would refuse you still.

But as I ran my hell-bound race, indifferent to the cost You looked upon my helpless state and led me to the cross. And I beheld God's love displayed: you suffered in my place. You bore the wrath reserved for me! Now all I know is grace.

Hallelujah! All I have is Christ. Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.

Now Lord I would be yours alone and live so all might see The strength to follow your commands could never come from me. O Father use my ransomed life in any way you choose. And let my song forever be – my only boast is you.

Jordan Kauflin, 2008

The Benediction

Numbers 6.24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Through Jesus, our King and our Savior. Amen.

Announcements

General Assembly Re-Cap – Friday, July 30

If you are interested to hear about our denomination's recent General Assembly, we invite you to a dessert on Friday evening, July 30. We'll gather at 7pm in the fellowship hall.

Introduction to Harvest Seminar – Saturday, August 14

Curious what it means to be Presbyterian? Unfamiliar with some of the basics of Christianity? Interested in potentially joining Harvest? This oneday seminar is required for membership but is also a great one-stop-shop for all things Harvest. Please email Grant with any questions or to sign-up (*gmbeachy@gmail.com*).

Offerings

In addition to passing the plate during the worship service, there is also a box at the back of the sanctuary in which you can place your offering. A third option is giving online through the <u>Resources tab</u> on our website.

Small Groups

Please take advantage of the opportunity to gather together with fellow believers in a smaller setting. A list of groups is available on the table in the foyer (yellow sheet).

Staying Connected

- *Directory* In order to foster relationships among us as a church family, we encourage you to make use of the app 'Instant Church Directory.'
 Jim Turner is point of contact for the app if you have any questions.
- ~ Email Distro List if you're interested in receiving email announcements and reminders, please send Grant an email and ask to be added to the official Harvest distro list (gmbeachy@gmail.com).
- ~ Please feel free to make any need or prayer request known to the church leadership through the email address *elders@harvestpres.com*. That is a confidential email that only the elders see. We would welcome you to make use of it.

Harvest Online –

- ~ <u>Facebook</u> & <u>Instagram</u> @harvestpresjax
- ~ <u>YouTube</u> search "Harvest Presbyterian Church Jacksonville NC"

HARVEST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Purpose Statement

Harvest Presbyterian Church exists by the providence and grace of God to develop and equip God's people for their calling to glorify and enjoy him in all of life through worship, nurture & service.

Our Supported Ministries & Missions

Onslow Pregnancy Resource Center – oprcfriends.com, 910.938.7000 Chuck & Lauren Askew – RUF NC State (caskew@ruf.org) Simon & Katie Stokes – RUF UNC Chapel Hill (simon.stokes@ruf.org) Matt & Bethany Mahla – RUF Duke (matt.mahla@ruf.org) Kris & Santae Cooper – RUF NCCU (kris.cooper@ruf.org) Skylar & Dori Adams – RUF ECU (skylar.adams@ruf.org) Sam & Shaunna Kennedy – RUF UNCW (sam.kennedy@ruf.org) Jonathan & Beka Hastings – MTW Atlanta (untilallshallhear@swissmail.org) Phil & Kay Luther – MTW Greece (phillipandkay.luther@gmail.com) Matthew & Sarah Haynes – MTW South Africa (reformedpilot@gmail.com)

> **RUF – Reformed University Fellowship** (our denominational campus ministry) **MTW – Mission To the World** (our denominational missions arm)

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