

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO**

**September 23, 2018  
10:00 A.M.**

**THE SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP  
“REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS!”**

**GATHERING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION** “Listening to The Call” Margo Fullinwider

**CHIMES**

**PRELUDE**

*“Blessed Assurance”* (Colvin)

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Psalm 103, selected verses

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,  
bless his holy name.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and do not forget all his benefits—**

who forgives all your iniquity,  
**who heals all your diseases,**  
who redeems your life from the Pit,  
**who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**  
who satisfies you with good as long as you live  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

**The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

**For he knows how we were made;  
he remembers that we are dust.**

Bless the Lord, O you his angels,  
you mighty ones who do his bidding,  
obedient to his spoken word.

**Bless the Lord, all his hosts,  
his ministers that do his will.**

Bless the Lord, all his works,  
in all places of his dominion.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul.**

**\*OPENING HYMN #610**      *“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”* (Glaser)

**\*PRAYER OF ADORATION**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Compassionate God, with your servant Abraham we proclaim you to be “the Lord who provides.” Yet how easily we forget all your benefits: your grace, your healing, your redemption, your boundless provision. We are so concerned about tomorrow, what we will eat and what we will wear. We fail time and again to trust in your provision and your watchful vigilance over us.**

**Forgive us, we pray. Free us from the tyranny of worry, from the oppression of possessions, from the concern about tomorrow and next week and next month. Liberate us so that we may live generous, joy-filled, abundant lives before you, in the power of your Spirit, in service to your Son. We pray in his amazing name. Amen.**

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

**\*GLORY BE TO THE FATHER #581**      *“Gloria Patri”* (Greatorex)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Please exchange these words with your neighbors: “The peace of the Lord be with you.” “And also with you.”

## **THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES**

2 Chronicles 31:5-10

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT LETTERS**

Timothy 6:6-10

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**ANTHEM**

*“Here I Am”* (Pote)

Chancel Choir

**\*READING FROM THE GOSPELS**

Matthew 6:25-34

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**A MOMENT FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

**SERMON**

“Rejoice in the Lord Always! I: Giving to God”

**\*HYMN #693**

*“Though I May Speak”* (English Folk Melody)

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

From *“The Scots Confession”* (1560)

**We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by his inscrutable providence for such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of his own glory.**

**SHARING OF PRAYER REQUESTS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**RETURNING TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

*“Seek Ye First”* (Lafferty)

**\*PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW #606**

(Genevan Psalter)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

**God who provides, grant that we may never forget all your benefits. You are the One who forgives all our iniquity, who heals all our diseases, who redeems our lives from hopelessness, who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies us with good all our days. You are merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

**How shall we respond? Out of the bounty you have provided we bring to you that which is yours, that for which you have made us stewards and managers: treasure, gifts and abilities, precious time. We rejoice in you, today and always, and with thanksgiving we give generously because you have given generously to us. We pray in the name of your greatest gift, Christ our joy. Amen.**

**\*OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,  
holy is your name;  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\*CLOSING HYMN #694**                      *"Great God of Every Blessing"* (Wesley)

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**\*POSTLUDE**

\*Please stand if you are able where asterisks are printed.

Words in **bold print** are spoken by the congregation.