

## PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

### CHIMES

(The congregation is asked to pray for the blessing of God upon this service.)

*God of power, may the boldness of your Spirit transform us, the gentleness of your Spirit lead us, and the gifts of your Spirit be our goal and our strength. Amen.*

PRELUDE *Pastorale* Richard Hudson

INTROIT *Blest Be the God of Israel* MERLE'S TUNE  
The Sanctuary Choir

Blest be the God of Israel, Who comes to set us free; Who visits and redeems us, Who grants us liberty. The prophets spoke of mercy, Of freedom and release; God shall fulfill that promise And bring the people peace.	On those who sit in darkness The sun begins to rise, The dawning of forgiveness Upon the sinner's eyes. God guides the feet of pilgrims Along the paths of peace. O bless our God and Savior With songs that never cease!
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### †CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel.  
**For God has looked favorably upon us and redeemed us.**  
God has raised up a mighty savior for us,  
**born of the house of David.**  
By the tender mercy of our God  
**the dawn from on high will break upon us,**  
**to give light to those who sit in darkness**  
**and in the shadow of death,**  
**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

†OPENING HYMN, No. 244 *Let Us with a Gladsome Mind*  
MONKLAND

### 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.**

KYRIE ELEISON, No. 572 Congregation and Choir

**Lord, have mercy upon us;  
Christ, have mercy upon us;  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†ACT OF PRAISE *Gloria Patri* MEINEKE

**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 OF THE PEACE

Stand, as you are able, and greet one another saying: *"The peace of Christ be with you."* Respond by saying: *"And also with you."*  
(Children are invited to come forward now for A Time with Children.)

## THE WORD

A TIME WITH CHILDREN Karen Yoder Day

*Children, ages 2-3 yrs. who will be going to Extended Session and children, ages 4-first grade who will be in the The Worship Center, may exit at this time through the right front door, where they will be escorted to the CE Building.*

**Leader:** As you depart from us now, the children of God say:

**Children:** God be with you as you stay.

**Congregation: God be with you as you go.**

**We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching, marching,  
we are marching in the light of God.**

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Colossians 3:1-17  
Pew Bible, page 190; large print, page 246  
(Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.)

ANTHEM *Teach Me, O Lord* Thomas Attwood  
The Sanctuary Choir

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes;  
And I shall keep it unto the end.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 5:33-48  
Pew Bible, page 5; large print, page 6  
This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

*Preaching Discipleship: The Terrifying Freedom of the Gospel*  
Mr. McDowell

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### †AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world; that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker; that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.**

**We believe that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity; that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.**

--from *The Belhar Confession*,

a Confession of the Uniting Reformed Church of Southern Africa

†HYMN, No. 353 *Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here*  
DAS NEUGEBOERNE KINDELEIN

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

#### PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

Offertory Litany from Matthew 5:3,4,6,7 and 7:21

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven."**

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

**"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven."**

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

**"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven."**

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

**"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven."**

In these and all other ways, O Lord, show us how to be the salt of the earth, and the light of the world.

**Let us give to God the offerings of our life, and the gifts from our treasure store. Amen.**

Offertory *Improvisation* Hollice S. Watson

†Doxology, No. 592 OLD HUNDREDTH

†Prayer of Dedication

†HYMN, No. 354      *Guide My Feet*      GUIDE MY FEET

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

May God bless you with discomfort, at easy answers, half truths and superficial relationships so that you will live deeply and from the heart.

May God bless you with anger, at injustice, oppression and the exploitation of people, so that you will work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those that mourn, so that you will reach out your hand to them and turn their mourning into joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you will do those things that others say cannot be done.

†RESPONSE      *This Little Light of Mine*  
African-American spiritual  
The Sanctuary Choir

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

†POSTLUDE      *We All Believe in One God*      Samuel Scheidt

† Worshipers standing if able.

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God.*

Elder Reader: Cathie Dodson  
Ushers: Anne Jenkins (captain), Oliver Jenkins, Jean Mendenhall, Marilyn Gallagher, Mark Williamson, Laura Williamson  
Extended Session: Lindsey Wells Peery  
Worship Center Leaders: Kelly Hodgson, Lynda Griffey  
Acolyte: Elizabeth Knight

**Ministers: All Members of the Congregation**

**Session Ministry Moderators:**

John Frierson	Administration	friersonjb@aol.com
John Guth	Church Facilities	johnguth@bellsouth.net
Rick LaBorde	Outreach	claborde@wpspump.com
David Oliver	Stewardship	dmo@rcco.com
Lynn Chance	Congregational Life	LWChance@att.net
Robert Folsom	Adult	robertfolsom@lendersoption.net
David Butterfield	Youth	david@msrlaw.com
Anna Gnann	Children	annagnann@yahoo.com
George Fritze	Evangelism	kinggpf@yahoo.com
Bruce Henderson	Worship	bhenderson@highlandclinic.com
Lisa Schrott	Communications	lschro@lsuhsc.edu
Julie Blewer	Staff Committee	jblewer@djlawfirm.com

**Church Staff:**

Pendleton B. Peery	Pastor
Bryan L. McDowell	Associate Pastor
Sarah Cooper Searight	Associate Pastor
Hollice S. Watson	Organist/Choir Director
Lindsey Wells Peery	Director of Children's Ministries
Cindy K. Natale	Director, First Presbyterian Day School
Rebecca L. Mayfield	PCHAS Director, Child and Family Program
Ginger Collier	Communications Director
Peggy E. Sartin	Administrative Coordinator
Susan B. Whaley	Church Secretary
Lona L. Lockard	Staff Secretary
George L. Beaner III	Maintenance Coordinator
Jeff A. McKenzie	Sexton
Sherry L. Odom	Housekeeper
Lillie M. Sutton	Housekeeper

WORSHIP NOTES

**WE WELCOME FRIENDS AND VISITORS.** This church is for anyone who wants to be counted as a disciple of Jesus Christ, and who wants to be included in its worship and work. Thank you for signing your name and address on the attendance pad. There is an information center with material about our church and Presbyterianism in the foyer of the Jordan Street entrance to the sanctuary.

**CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED FOR PRESCHOOL CHILDREN** by Sitters' Registry and church volunteers. Nursery: Room CE-106; Extended Session during 11:00 a.m. worship for ages 2 yrs.—3 yrs.: Room CE-105 and The Worship Center for ages 4 yrs.—first grade: Room CE-113.

**CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP!** Bibles are available for use during worship; they are found at the end of every pew. We also provide **Worship Bags** designed for children elementary age and younger. The worship bags can be found in the narthex and at the front entrances to the sanctuary. Please return them after the service.

**THE BENEDICTION** was spoken by Dr. Eugenia Gamble at the 2010 Montreat Women's Conference.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
SHREVEPORT

A Service for the Worship of God  
Eleven O'Clock  
February 20, 2011  
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

You have heard that it was said . . . ,  
but I say to you . . .

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us worship God.