



First Presbyterian Church of Scottsbluff

November 15, 2020

WELCOME!

Announcements & Greetings

Organ Prelude/Bell

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: No matter how far we wander from you, O God,

People: **Your steadfast love finds us.**

Leader: No matter how unjust the world seems to us, O God

People: **Your steadfast righteousness sustains us.**

Leader: No matter how vulnerable our lives seem to us, O God.

People: **Your steadfast presence gives us hope.**

Leader: No matter how unloved and uncared for we feel, O God,

People: **You hear our cries and answer our prayers. Thanks be to God!**

Opening Prayer

***Hymn #716 "Today We All Are Called to be Disciples"**

1 God, whose giving knows no ending,

from your rich and endless store,

nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,

costly cross, grave's shattered door:

gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.

2 Skills and time are ours for pressing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the church made one.

Now direct our daily labor,
lest we strive for self alone.

Born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.

3 Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace conferred:
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel word.

Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you.

We look at outward appearances and fail to see what pleases you.

We look with judgment on others and fail to see our own sin.

Forgive us, by your steadfast love.

Create a clean heart within us,

Teach us your holy way, and restore the joy of salvation;

Hear us now as we silently confess our sins to you.

Minute of Silent Prayer

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Response #735

I need thee every hour,
most gracious Lord;
no tender voice like thine
can peace afford.

Refrain:

I need thee, O I need thee,
every hour I need thee!
O bless me now, my Savior--
I come to thee!

Special Music

"I Would Be True"

John Simmons

PROCLAMATION IN WORD AND SONG

Hymn of Preparation #458 "Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet"

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way,

still you're there right beside me
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near
Please be near me to the end.

Message *Denise Pass, Guest Pastor*

Scripture Reading Matthew 25:14-30

14“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. 17In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

19After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ 21His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ 22And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ 23His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

24Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; 25so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ 26But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? 27Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29For to all those who have, more will be given,

and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Morning Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer--Denise Pass

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

Hymn #757 “Today We All Are Called to be Disciples”

1 Today we are all called to be
Disciples of the Lord,
To help to set the captives free,
Make plow-share out of sword,
To feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
Make love and peace our fast,
To serve the poor and homeless first,
Our ease and comfort last.

2 God made the world and at its birth
Ordained our human race
To live as stewards of the earth,
Responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud,
We sow not peace but strife,
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud
That threatens all of life.

3 Pray justice may come rolling down
As in a mighty stream,

With righteousness in field and town
To cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
An earth where conflicts cease,
A world that was created for
A harmony of peace.
4 May we in service to our God
Act out the living word,
And walk the road the saints have trod
Till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
Give thanks in one accord
To God who calls us all to be
Disciples of the Lord.

Charge & Benediction

Postlude



Jeff & April Fiet, *Pastors*

Tami Lippstreu, *Organ/Piano*

Randy, Prouty, *Liturgist*



Denise Pass, today's Guest Pastor, is the Executive Presbyter at Presbytery of Plains & Peaks.

PRAYERS REQUESTS:

The Arnold Family

Bob Bishop

Maranda Coop and Family

Cheryl Kennedy

Jamalee Mellinger

Kade Rowley

Kirsten Schutt & Baby

Gary Thompson

Chauncey Walker

Frank Ringleman

Julia Bartlett

Laura Clements

Rebecca Deines

Marlin Kuxhausen

Laura Pulscher

Penny Shepherd

Vern Sterk

Debbie VanNoy

Ruth Walker

Call the office to add a name to the Prayer Chain. (308) 632-2131

OUR HEARTFELT SYMPATHY goes to the families who have lost loved ones this past week. Please remember Maranda Coop and her family in the passing of her husband, Shane Coop. We also extend our condolences to Harlan and Beth Trupp on the passing of Harlan's father, Delbert Trupp. Keep these families in your thoughts and prayers.

Scotts Bluff County moved into the **RED** on the risk dial put out each week by Panhandle Public Health District. That means that our area is in SEVERE risk of the spread of COVID-19. In following with our Phased Reopening Schedule First Presbyterian Church will now move into Phase 1, which means our worship will be ONLINE ONLY. Look for updates to this status by email, website, and Facebook.