

New St. Peter's Presbyterian Church
Celebration of Worship
January 28, 2018

Striking of the Hour *“Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners”*

Call to Worship (Psalm 32)

O LORD our God, You are a hiding place for us. You preserve us from trouble and surround us with shouts of deliverance.

Liturgy of the Word (Psalm 32, 33)

“I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go. I will counsel you with my eye upon you,” says the LORD. **Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!** For the word of the LORD is upright and all His work is done in faithfulness. **He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.**

Invocation

The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we also
forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

Hymn: *“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”*

Hymn: *“Be Thou My Vision”*

Confession of Sin and Plea for Pardon (Luke 7, Ephesians 3)

Our gracious Father, please look upon us with mercy as we carry our crushing debts. **We confess that we have chased other loves with adulterous hearts. We have judged the intentions and desires of others because we have thought so highly of our own opinions and insights. Though we ourselves are not prophets, we think we are equipped to judge like one. We have loved Your Son with little love because we so**

underestimate the greatness of our sin. Show us, once again, our great need and reveal to our hearts the breadth, length, height and depth of the love of Christ.

Worshippers may continue to confess their sins in silence.

Assurance of Pardon (1 John 4, Luke 7)

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. **And if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. He has forgiven us the fullness of our debts, though they are as high as the mountains. We have been loved with the infinite love of Christ and He has cast out all our fear. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

A reading from the Psalms: King David describes the blessing of the one who openly invites the LORD into the dark depths of his soul. (Psalm 32:1-11)

Sharing the Peace of Christ

May the peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Doxology *“Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners”*

Preparation for Baptism (From Deuteronomy 6 and Acts 2)

Hear, O Israel: **The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.**

Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of His Holy Spirit. **For this promise is for us and for our children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the LORD our God calls to Himself.**

Words of Instruction

Sign of God’s Covenant in Baptism

Hymn: *“Jesus, Let Us Come to Know You”*

Sermon: *“Love is the Proof”* (Luke 7:36-50)

Offerings and Alms

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you?
To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

Hymn: *“Psalm 32 (Hiding Place)”*

Hymn: *“Jesus Paid It All”*

Parting Liturgy (Luke 7 and Romans 5)

Church, not only have your sins been forgiven, but you have been deeply loved far beyond all you could ask or think. **Thanks be to God! For in Christ, we have been anointed by the Holy Spirit, through whom the love of God has been poured into our hearts.**

Benediction (Luke 7)

People of Christ, your faith in Him has saved you. Go in peace!

Come quickly, Lord Jesus! Amen.