

WORSHIP GUIDE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples;
I will sing praises to you among the nations.
For your steadfast love is great to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.
Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!
Let your glory be over all the earth!

Psalm 57:9-11

Gathering Hymn - *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

*Praise to the Lord, The Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, For He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, Now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.*

*Praise to the Lord, Who over all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, Yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen How all your longings have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?*

*Praise to the Lord, Who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness And mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.*

*Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, Come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen Sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.*

Call to Confession

“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. “You shall have no other gods before me.

Exodus 20:2-3

Confession Hymn - *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

*Create in me a clean heart, O God.
And Renew a right spirit within me (x2)
Cast me not away from thy presence, O Lord,
and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me, the joy of thy salvation,
and renew a right spirit within me.*

Confession of Sin

Heavenly father, we confess that you are the one and only true God. Forgive us for our forgetful, disrespectful, and self-seeking hearts. We have worshipped the gods of prosperity, success, beauty, power, and comfort. We have prioritized our own immediate needs before others and before you. Rather than seek to conform our lives to your commands, we have sought to understand your commands according to the ways we want to live our lives. Forgive us for denying your power your goodness and your authority in our lives.

Words of Forgiveness & Peace

For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:
“I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite. I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and restore comfort to him.

Isaiah 57:15, 18

In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace

[Invitation for congregation to share a sign of peace with one another]

Hymns of Praise and Adoration -

Doxology

*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.*

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

*My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' name*

(Refrain)

*On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand*

*When darkness veils his lovely face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil*

(Refrain)

*His oath, his covenant, his blood
Supports me in the 'whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay*

(Refrain)

*When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in his righteousness alone
Faultless to stand before the throne*

How Great is Our God

*The splendor of a King, clothed in majesty
Let all the Earth rejoice, All the Earth rejoice
He wraps himself in light, and darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice, trembles at His voice*

(Refrain)

*How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God*

*Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end
The Godhead Three in One, Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb, The Lion and the Lamb*

(Refrain)

*Name above all names
Worthy of our praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God
(x2)*

(Refrain)

Living Our Faith

Blessing of the Children

Psalm Reading

Psalm 137:1-4

- By the waters of Babylon,
there we sat down and wept,
when we remembered Zion.
- ² On the willows there
we hung up our lyres.
- ³ For there our captors
required of us songs,
and our tormentors, mirth, saying,
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”
- ⁴ How shall we sing the Lord’s song
in a foreign land?

Gloria Patri

***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.***

Old Testament Reading

Daniel 1

In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.

²And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the vessels of the house of God. And he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and placed the vessels in the treasury of his god. ³Then the king commanded Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring some of the people of Israel, both of the royal family and of the nobility, ⁴youths without blemish, of good appearance and skillful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge, understanding learning, and competent to stand in the king’s palace, and to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans. ⁵The king assigned them a daily portion of the food that the king ate, and of the wine that he drank. They were to be educated for three years, and at the end of that time they were to stand before the king. ⁶Among these were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah of the tribe of Judah. ⁷And the chief of the eunuchs gave them names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego.

⁸But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king’s food, or with the wine

that he drank. Therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself. ⁹And God gave Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the chief of the eunuchs, ¹⁰and the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, "I fear my lord the king, who assigned your food and your drink; for why should he see that you were in worse condition than the youths who are of your own age? So you would endanger my head with the king." ¹¹Then Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had assigned over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, ¹²"Test your servants for ten days; let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink. ¹³Then let our appearance and the appearance of the youths who eat the king's food be observed by you, and deal with your servants according to what you see." ¹⁴So he listened to them in this matter, and tested them for ten days. ¹⁵At the end of ten days it was seen that they were better in appearance and fatter in flesh than all the youths who ate the king's food. ¹⁶So the steward took away their food and the wine they were to drink, and gave them vegetables.

¹⁷As for these four youths, God gave them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. ¹⁸At the end of the time, when the king had commanded that they should be brought in, the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. ¹⁹And the king spoke with them, and among all of them none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. Therefore they stood before the king. ²⁰And in every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters that were in all his kingdom. ²¹And Daniel was there until the first year of King Cyrus.

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

New Testament Reading

Colossians 4:5-6

⁵Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. ⁶Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

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

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

The Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

Pastor Peter Rowan - *Life in Exile*

Creed

Let us affirm the faith of the Church:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended to 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 life everlasting. Amen.**

The Apostles' Creed

Offering of Prayers of the People

We praise and thank you, O Lord, that you have fed us with your Word. Grateful for your gifts and mindful of the communion of your saints, we offer to you our prayers for all people.

God of compassion, we remember before you the poor and the afflicted, the sick and the dying, prisoners and all who are lonely, the victims of war, injustice, and inhumanity, and all others who suffer from whatever their sufferings may be called. [*Silence*]

O Lord of providence, holding the destiny of the nations in your hand, we pray for our country. Inspire the hearts and minds of our leaders that they, together with all our nation, may first seek your kingdom and righteousness so that order, liberty, and peace may dwell with your people. [*Silence*]

O God the Creator, we pray for all nations and peoples. Take away the mistrust and lack of understanding that divide your creatures. [*Silence*]

O Savior God, look upon your church in its struggle upon the earth. Have mercy on its weakness, bring to an end its unhappy divisions, and scatter its fears. Look also upon the ministry of your church. Increase its courage, strengthen its faith, and inspire its witness to all people, even to the ends of the earth. [*Silence*]

Author of grace and God of love, send your Holy Spirit's blessing to your children here present. Keep our hearts and thoughts in Jesus Christ, your Son, our only Savior. **Amen.**

Offering of gifts and prayer

Friends and members of Second City Church support the extension of God's Kingdom with gifts of bread, wine, talents and resources. Guests are not expected to contribute. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering plates, boxes on the wall as you leave, or can be made electronically. Instructions for setting up online giving are available at the donation boxes.

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Invitation

The Lord be with you.**And also with you.**Lift up your hearts.**We lift them up to the Lord.**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

Praise God for His Mighty Acts

We thank you, creator God, that you made us in your image, and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, our love failing, and our bodies diseased, you reached out to us again and again, providing healing, wholeness, and new life.

When the flood came, You provided an ark.

When the plagues came You provided safety.

When evening came, You provided a pillar of fire.

When exile came, You provided a new song.

Day after day after day, Your love remained steadfast.

And so with your people on earth, and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Sanctus - *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

*Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might, Hosanna
Holy Holy holy Lord
God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord*

Praise for Christ's Sacrifice

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Calling on the Holy Spirit and Lord's Prayer

We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven: hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to the Table

Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Second City Church welcomes all baptized Christians who have made a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ in a Christian church to join us in this sacrament. Non-communicants can come forward and ask for a blessing. If you need to receive communion in your seat, ask a fellow worshiper to let the communion servers know. If you are unable to receive wine, you will find a chalice containing non-alcoholic grape juice at the station the pastor is serving. The communion bread is gluten-free.

Closing Prayer

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

- 2 Corinthians 13:14

Closing Hymn - We Are Pilgrims

We are pilgrims of a day,
Homeward bound, homeward bound;
Singing on our cheerful way,
We are homeward bound.

We are happy in the Lord,
Trav'ling on, trav'ling on;
Trusting in His holy Word,
We are trav'ling on.

Refrain

*We journey, hand in hand,
As we follow the lamb,
He will sustain his own,
As we travel home.*

Sin and sorrow here below,

Soon will end, soon will end;
In the land to which we go,
Toil and care will end.

Working all the way along,
Rest will come, rest will come;
Lighten work with pray'r and song,
Blessèd rest will come.

Refrain

Onward, upward still,
Oh ye hopeful pilgrims;
Forward, fear no ill,
Yonder is our home (2x)

Refrain

Dismissal

I hope to see you soon, and we will talk face to face.
Peace be to you. The friends greet you.
Greet the friends, each by name.

- 3 John 14-15

Amen.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUESTS

Continued prayers for Elaine Zubrod. Elaine recently had a PET scan which showed no new cancer visible. PTL! She continues with chemo. Pray that she remains healthy and doesn't contract COVID, pray she tolerates the chemo and that she continues to show no new cancer cells. Please keep Gordon in your prayers as well.

Please pray for Bill Orner who is receiving dialysis Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays of each week. Pray Bill remains healthy so he can receive the treatments.

Please pray for the residents and staff at Paxton Ministries. God has been gracious to them during the pandemic. He has provided for their needs on many levels. Please pray for the Lord's continued protection over the Paxton Ministries homes, as well as wisdom and good morale as they continue to walk through this crisis. They also ask we pray that the Lord would lead people with a heart for ministry to fill their open staff positions.

Please pray for Andy Phillips and all the staff and children at Logos Harrisburg. Logos Harrisburg resumed classes on Aug. 24th. Pray for the safety of the staff and the students.

Pray for those around us who are sick, lonely, hungry and hurting. Pray that God would give us opportunities to reach out to those around us in His name and for His glory.

Praise the Lord for the amazing progress Shara Herbert, daughter of Cindy Russo, is making following liver transplant surgery in June. She is eating and swallowing better and has gained 2 pounds. She is walking without the aid of a walker or wheelchair and is cleared to drive for short distances. Shara would like to thank everyone who prayed and sent cards. Shara appreciates the outpouring of love from Second City church.

Please pray for those in our church family who are elderly and/or immunocompromised that they would not contract the COVID 19 virus.

Please continue to pray for Kaylee Miller, Cindy Russo's niece. Kaylee will undergo another surgery tomorrow, Monday, September 14th. Please pray that the surgery would go well and that Kaylee would recover swiftly and completely. Please also continue to pray for her son Owen and husband Josh. If you would like to send Kaylee a note of encouragement her address is 54 Lone Oak Drive, Marysville, PA 17053.

Pray for those around us who are sick, lonely, hungry and hurting. Pray that God would give us opportunities to reach out to those around us in His name and for His glory.

Please continue to pray for our nation as discussions occur across the country concerning the subject of racism and racial reconciliation. Pray that God would give us eyes to see and ears to hear. "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but to the interest of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus."

Philippians 2: 3-5

Please pray for the leaders of our nation.

Please pray for the upcoming election.

Please pray for our church as we navigate through this time of the COVID 19 virus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Men's Canoe and Cook-off: Next Saturday, September 19th, from 1-6, we are going to have a great opportunity for men's fellowship. We'll be canoeing the Yellow Breeches from Simpson Park to Lower Allen Park. No previous canoeing experience is necessary. Once we are done with the canoeing, we will head over to the Tanis' where there will be a cookout with a friendly competition between those who have smoked some ribs for the event. We hope all of the men of the church can come out and we'd encourage you to invite friends. Please contact either Pastor Peter (peter@secondcitychurch.org or 253-720-1454) or Dave Tanis (davidjtanis@gmail.com or 717-503-5179).

Please join us today at 12 PM at Fort Hunter for a children's lesson and songs. We will meet on the east side of the road, on the same side where the barn is located, at the picnic tables by the playground. Any age group is welcome to participate but the lessons and songs are geared towards children age 3 to 8ish. Lesson and Song will begin around 12:30 and will wrap up around 12:45 so the younger ones can get home in time for naps. Following the children's time you are welcome to bring a lunch and fellowship together while social distancing.

Thanks to everyone who donated items for the **"Cheer Bags"** we put together for the 85 residents at Paxton Ministries.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 17th for a **SCC picnic** at the Sheaffer Retreat property, 2011 Fishing Creek Road, Harrisburg. More details will follow in the coming weeks.

Ladies Bible Study has resumed and is meeting at the church from 7-9 PM on the following Wednesday evenings: September 16th, 23rd, and 30th; October 7th and 21st; November 4th and 18th and December 2nd. They are using the Jen Wilkin's study of 1 Samuel. Questions? Email Melise Rowan at melise930@gmail.com

New Men's Bible Study is meeting on Tuesday afternoons from 4-5 PM at the home of David Kemper. They will meet outside under David's portico and social distancing practices will be followed. David's address is 1007 N. Second St., Harrisburg. Questions???
Peter@secondcitychurch.org.

Monday Morning Breakfast at the church will begin tomorrow, September 14th from 7-8 AM. There will be a time of Breakfast, Bible Study and prayer. Everyone welcome! Contact Peter@secondcitychurch.org.