

January 24, 2021

10:00 a.m.



Hartwood Presbyterian Church

Our mission is to develop disciples by
providing worship, fellowship and service
through Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Reverend Doctor Scott Fouts

Music Director: Lara Brittain

January 24, 2021 / 10:00 AM

The People Gather

Call to Worship (responsive)

Psalm 56: 10-13

Pastor: In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise.

People: In God I trust, I will not be afraid. What can mere humans do to me?

Pastor: I am obligated by vows to You, God; I will make my thanksgiving sacrifices to You.

People: For You rescued me from death, even my feet from stumbling, to walk before God in the light of life.

Prayer of Adoration (responsive)

A Prayer of the 8th Century

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts. Eternal Goodness deliver us from evil. Eternal Power be our support. Eternal Wisdom scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal Pity have mercy upon us, that with all our heart and mind and strength we may seek your face and be brought by your infinite mercy to your holy presence, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn #61 “Lavish Love, Abundant Beauty” *(red hymnal / see insert)*

We Humble Ourselves in Confession

A Call to Confession

Matthew 11: 28-30

Jesus said, “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

Prayer of Confession (responsive)

O God, we are so thankful that you love us and sent Jesus to save us, but there are times when we find it too hard to believe that you have really forgiven us. We know we aren't good enough to be forgiven. Other times we are very thankful for your mercy to us, but we are sure that others are beyond the possibility of forgiveness. Help us learn to be like you, loving all your world. Amen.

The Assurance of Pardon

Colossians 3: 12-14; John 13:34

As God's own people, be merciful in action, kindly in heart, humble in mind. Be always ready to forgive as freely as God has forgiven you. And, above everything else be loving, and never forget to be thankful for what Christ has done for you. Hear the teaching of Christ: A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you. Amen.

*If you are able, please stand. / **Bold = people participate**

Hymn #504 “He Touched Me” (*red hymnal / see insert*)

We Listen for God’s Word

A Moment with the Children and Youth

Whether times were bad or good: strong in faith, Joseph stood.

A Prayer for Illumination

The Presentation of the Word

The Reading of the New Testament:

Ruth 1: 19-22

The two of them traveled until they came to Bethlehem. When they entered Bethlehem, the whole town was excited about their arrival and the local women exclaimed, “Can this be Naomi?”

“Don’t call me Naomi. Call me Mara,” she answered, “for the Almighty has made me very bitter. I went away full, but the LORD has brought me back empty. Why do you call me Naomi, since the LORD has opposed me, and the Almighty has afflicted me?” So Naomi came back from the territory of Moab with her daughter-in-law Ruth the Moabitess. They arrived in Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest.

Sermon Title:

“A Bittersweet Reunion”

A bitter heart can be changed by the sweetness of God’s love.

The People Respond

Hymn #350 “’Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus” (*red hymnal / see insert*)

A Season of Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

Our Silent and Personal Prayers

The Lord’s Prayer

***Affirmation of Faith (responsive)** (*see insert*)

“The Session would like to remind you that despite the Corona Virus crisis shut downs the church still has financial obligations. You may continue to give by mailing contributions to the Church Office; giving electronically through Realm; or making bulk donations from investments.”

***Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious God, You have made us and given us good gifts. You provide for our every need. Forgive us for thinking that we do not have the gifts we need to be in service to You. Help us to know that, you give us the opportunity to use our gifts to serve you as You transform the world into the Kingdom that You desire. Amen.

Closing Hymn #505 “Love Lifted Me” (*red hymnal / see insert*)

***The Charge and Benediction**

The Postlude

Please use this week's bulletin in your personal worship time.

Church Office Information

Hours: Monday - Wednesday: 12:00 -3:00, Thursday: 9:00 am- 3:00 pm

Phone: 540-752-4671 / Fax: (540) 356-5725

Email: hartwoodchurch@verizon.net / Web: www.hartwoodpresbyterian.com

Contact Pastor Fouts: pastor.hartwoodchurch11@verizon.net