

**Worship, March 22, 2020**  
**St. Stephen Presbyterian Church**  
**Fort Worth, TX**

**Peal of the Tower Bells**

**Prelude:** *Archangel Suite* (2012) Craig Phillips (b. 1961)  
III. *Raphael* “It is God who heals—Archangel of healing”

**Call to Worship**

**Leader:** Let us live as children of the light.

**All:** We worship the Lord.

**Hymn:** #450 *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

**Prayer of Adoration**

**Leader:** In Christ there is a new creation. The old has passed away; everything is new!


**All:** Gracious God, in order that the children of earth might discern good from evil, you sent your Son to be the light of the world. As Christ shines upon us, may we learn what pleases you and live in all truth and goodness: through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Prayer of Confession**

**Leader:** The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus who came into the world to save sinners. Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sins:

**All:** Lord God, in this time of change which upends the whole world, forgive us when we forget that you have the whole world in your hands, that you are the sovereign Lord, and that you intend good for all creation and all people. Forgive us when we use social distancing to create real distance between ourselves and the problems the world faces. Protect us from the temptation to seek our own momentary pleasure and satisfaction at the risk of putting another person in peril. Teach us the humility to trust you in times when things are out of our control; and to bear witness to the love of Jesus in every aspect of our lives... (*silent confession*)

**Kyrie**



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us;    Christ, have mer - cy up - on us;    Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## **Assurance of Pardon**

**Leader:** Hear, believe and proclaim the good news.

**All:** Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.

**Leader:** In Christ Jesus we are forgiven, made new, and set free. Thanks be to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. The peace of the Lord be with you.

**All:** And also with you.

**Gloria Patri: #580** *Glory Be to the Father*

SCOTTISH

**Prayer of Illumination**

Betty Arvin

**Hebrew Bible: I Samuel 16: 1-13**

**Leader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**New Testament: Ephesians 5: 8-14**

**Leader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Gospel: John 9: 1-41, selected verses**

**Leader:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Glory to you, O Christ.

**Sermon:** *"Who Only Stand and Wait"*

Rev. Dr. Fritz Ritsch

## **Silent Reflection**

*"They also serve who only stand and wait."* John Milton, English Poet and Civil Servant, 1608-1674, from his sonnet "On His Blindness"

**Hymn: #649** *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* AMAZING GRACE

**Affirmation of Faith (In Unison):** From "A Brief Statement of Faith," PCUSA, 1991

In life and death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

The love of God,

And the communion of the Holy Spirit,

we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,

whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,

everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,

sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,

and binds us together with all believers  
in the one body of Christ, the church.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks  
and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,  
praying, Come, Lord Jesus!  
With believers in every time and place,  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## **Call to Discipleship**

**Offertory:** *Rubrics* (1988) Dan Locklair (b. 1949)  
IV. *The Peace may be exchanged*

**Doxology:** #606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow*

## **Prayers of Intercession for Church and World**

**Leader:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** It is right to give God thanks and praise... (Prayer continues)

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Hymn:** #377 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* HOUSTON

## **Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude:** *Toccata on 'Amazing Grace'* (2001) Christopher Pardini (b. 1973)

## **Peal of the Tower Bells**



The Reverend Dr. Fritz Ritsch, *Pastor*  
Jordan Smith, *Organist & Director of Music Ministries*  
Chuck Shanlever, *Videographer*

## 450

## Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D/F#) (A7) (D)  
 Eb Ab Eb/G Bb7 Eb

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;  
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) (D) (G) (A)  
 Bb Eb Ab Bb

naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) (D) (F#m7) (G) (A)  
 Ab Eb Gm7 Ab Bb

thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;  
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) (D/F#) (G) (D)  
 Cm Eb/G Ab Eb

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.  
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

580

# Glory Be to the Father

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It contains a series of chords and some melodic lines. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It contains a series of chords and some melodic lines. The lyrics are written between the two staves.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
MUSIC: Scottish chant

GLORIA PATRI (Scottish)

# 649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

**CHOCTAW**

*Shilombish holitopa ma!  
 Ishmminti pulla cha  
 hatak ilbusha pia ha  
 is pi yukpalashke.*

**CREEK**

*Po ya fek cha he thlat ah tet  
 ah non ah cha pa kas  
 cha fee kee o funnan la kus  
 um e ha ta la yus.*

**NAVAHO**

*Nizhónítigo joobá diits' a'  
 yisdáshítínigítí,  
 lah yóóiiyá, k'ad  
 shénáhoosdzin,  
 doo eesh'íí da ní't'éeé.*

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16-17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

# 606

## Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise \*him, all crea-tures

here be - low; praise \*him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

\*Or "God"

TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709  
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDRETH  
LM

# 377 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to fol - low  
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to look at  
3 I'm look-ing for the com - ing of Christ. I want to be with

Je - sus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The  
Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness, shine on my path, and  
Je - sus. When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

*Refrain*

star of my life is Je - sus.  
show me the way to the Fa - ther. In him there is no dark-ness at  
shall know the joy of Je - sus.

all. The night and the day are both a - like. The Lamb is the

light of the cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.