

**"Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him, bless his name."**

The pilgrims on their way to Jerusalem sang songs. The songs expressed their excitement as they gathered within the city gates to share their worship and celebrations within the courts. These songs told of their longing to worship God together and to give thanks for the greatness of God's gifts to them.

Each year, we Presbyterians have a pilgrimage. Commissioners and young adults from the presbyteries, along with other visitors, travel to enter the court of the General Assembly. While we often think of this court as a place of business, it is also where we gather to praise God, share fellowship, celebrate our ministries, and discern what God is calling our church to be and to do.

During the opening worship of General Assembly and each morning in worship, voices are raised in song to praise God. Throughout the day, people gather around meal tables, at special events and along the paths to share stories. Within the Assembly Hall, through the reports of the committees, stories of our ministries are told and decisions are made about new directions for our church. In that same hall, we welcome ecumenical and interfaith guests and we celebrate milestones in our life as a church. Throughout this court, voices are heard thanking God for gathering us together and preparing to send us out to serve.

At the end of the Assembly and upon leaving this court, the ancient words from the Psalms are raised in song:

Now, for my friends' and kindred's sake,
"Peace be in thee," I'll say.
"And for the house of God our Lord
I'll seek thy good alway."

Terrie-Lee Hamilton is Senior Administrator for the General Assembly Office of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Photo by Barb Summers



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, June 2, 2013

Communion Service

Please stand at items marked * if you are able.
Passages in **Bold Print** are to be spoken in Unison

Organ Prelude - Hymn and Quiet Reflection
Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Bert Vancook

Organist - Carol Wehrstedt Music Director- Kendall House



Prayer Concerns:

Marie Huffman (Roseview)
and her granddaughter, Bronwyn
Douglas Anderson

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Introit

* **Entry of the Bible**

Call to Worship

* **Hymn: Praise him, praise him**

372

Opening Prayer

Assurance of Pardon

Exchanging the Peace of Christ

Music

* **Hymn Come, know my joy**

788

(Children go to Sunday School during the last verse)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Preparation:

Lead me, Lord, lead me in your righteousness; make your way plain before my face; for it is you, and you, God only, who makes me to dwell in safety.

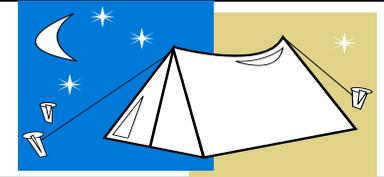
Bible Readings:

Galatians 1: 1-12	P. 187	N.T.
Psalms 96	P. 550 & 551	O.T.
Luke 7: 1-10	P. 65	N.T.

Summer 2013 Camp Donations

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church. Please write your name beside what you would be able to provide.

Please bring food, monetary or craft supply donations to the Church Office. Deadline anytime up to June 23rd so we can get the donations to St Andrews the week of June 24th. Thank you



Pres-B-Camp is fast approaching! Pres-B-Camp is a week long overnight camp for those entering grade 4 to grade 9 in Sept. This year's camp will be held July 5th-11th. Registration forms are available in the church office.

The Fort William Scouts are having a yard sale on June 15th. If anyone has something to donate please let Don Munn know and arrangements will be made for any donations to be picked up.

Come and celebrate with us and make a difference in Sierra Leone!

CanSerra Organization (Former Friends of Mabureh), is hosting its 4th annual African Dinner at the First Presbyterian Church on Saturday June 8, 2013, at 6pm.

Tickets are \$15. Thanks for your support!



Thank you this week to:

Greeters: Betty Irwin and Betty Irving
Lay Reader: Evelyn Konrad
Fellowship Time: Donna and Fred Johnson
Elevator Operator: Cameron Noy
Offering Counting: Terry and Margaret Stein
Offering Collection: Russ Brown, Don Munn, Joyce Nystrom, Janet Taylor
Visiting:: Leslie Shaw and Betty Irving
Grass Cutting: Bob Vanderploeg

Next week's volunteers: June 9th

Greeters: Betty Irwin and Betty Irving
Lay Reader: Lloyd Jones
Fellowship Time: Margaret and Terry Stein
Elevator Operator: Cameron Noy
Offering Counting: Mickey Kennedy, Sandy Allen, Leila Pettigrew
Offering Collection: Russ Brown, Don Munn, Joyce Nystrom, Janet Taylor
Visiting: Leslie Shaw and Betty Irving
Grass Cutting: Bob Vanderploeg

Upcoming Events at First

Tues. June 4th	- More than Mission Potluck Lunch Windup	- 12:00 pm
Thurs., June 6th	- Bible Study - Choir Practice	- 10 am - 7 pm
Wed., June 12th	- Session Meeting	- 7 pm

If anyone is interested in planting in the Church vegetable garden please contact Linda Rydholm at 577-9260

Gloria

594

Sermon

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Tithes and Offerings

*** Offertory Response 434**

*For each perfect gift of thine,
to the earth so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven,
Lord of all to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.*

*** Prayer of Dedication**

Take our longings and our hopes, O God, and nurture our lives that we may be people who care for each other and for the world. We pray through Jesus.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

*** Hymn: *Be present at our table* # 456**

Affirmation of Faith:

We believe in God the Creator, the one who brings us eternal signs of hope.

We believe in Jesus Christ, who is born within cherishing spaces among humble and faithful people.

We believe in the Spirit of God, whose promises break through every barrier and surprise us with joy.

In the realities of earth we believe that the beauty of God's love is reflected in the vulnerability of faith.

We wait and work for the coming of God's peace which longs to emerge in every place and generation.

Remembering the Meal with Jesus

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Gracious God, we give thanks to you with our voices and with our lives.

For the power and mystery of your Word by which you created us and called us to yourself, we give you thanks.

For the power and mystery of your Word by which you took flesh and lived among us through your Son Jesus, we give you thanks.

For the power and mystery of your Word by which you choose people to form the church, to be the body of Jesus in this world, we give you thanks.

With all your faithful people from every time and place we join with the whole creation to respond to you in joy:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

As we return to you these elements of food and drink, we remember Jesus' command to take and eat. We ponder the mystery of his promise that in this meal we are joined to him and to one another as a holy people uniting heaven and earth.

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We thank you for Jesus, who lived among us, was baptized for our sins, taught us your way of truth, loved us in our lovelessness, and died that we might have life.

So, O God, we celebrate with joy the resurrection of Jesus, his presence with us in this meal, and his promise of a new creation, as we affirm the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

God of grace and power, you invite us to share in mysteries that are beyond our understanding; in simple trust we seek the transforming power of your Spirit on this gathering of your people, on these words and actions, on these elements, in order that, by the miracle of your grace, we may be one in body, one in spirit, on in faith.

This worship we offer you, o God, through Jesus our Lord and Saviour, who lives in unity with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, to all eternity.

Sharing the Meal

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (debtsdebtors)

* Hymn: *Sent forth by your blessing*

775

Blessing

Response: *Sing Amen* 264

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFTER TODAY'S WORSHIP TO DECIDE ON WHETHER TO PROCEED WITH A CALL.



Thank you so much to everyone who donates to the Food Bank