

First Presbyterian Church

Huntsville, Tennessee

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 29, 2018 11:00 A.M.

Prelude

*Call to Worship

Leader: May the God who walks with us be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: People of God let us lift our hearts to the One who loves us.

People: We lift them up to our God who cradles us with grace.

Leader: Let us sing praises to the One who has shaped us in joy.

People: We lift our songs of thanksgiving to the God whose hope is greater than we dare imagine.

*Hymn 187

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

*Prayer of Confession (said by all)

Lord, we in the church are in danger of looking the other way instead of proclaiming God's eternal love. We persist in clinging to the way things were, or eagerly placing our faith in the newest religious fad, or the latest book on Ten Easy Steps to Christianity. Instead You call us to be His disciples — a risky endeavor we are not certain we want to begin. Give to us the strength and courage You gave to Peter so long ago on a beach where He had gone fishing instead of following You. Help us to live into Your vision for ourselves and our world. In Your precious name we pray as we confess our personal sins, knowing we will be forgiven.

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Because we know the love and grace of God,

All: We can proclaim together that we are forgiven.

Message to the Children

*Hymn

Because He Lives (page 2)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons

Acts 8: 26-37; **Psalm 22:25-31** (page 2); *John 21: 15-19

*Gloria Patri (Hymn 546)

Special Music

Sermon

Going Fishing

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Patricia Ramsden

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Affirmation of Faith: New Testament Affirmations (page 2)

Offering

Offertory

*Doxology (Hymn 544)

*Prayer of Dedication

Dearest Lord, accept these offerings for Your work — and our work — on this earth. Accept too the offering of our lives to You as we answer Your call to be Your disciples. Amen.

*Hymn 338

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!

*Charge and Blessing

*Postlude

Psalm 22:25-31

I will sing of you in the great assembly,
Make good my promise before your faithful.

The poor shall eat all they want.
Seekers of God shall give praise: "May your hearts live forever!"

All peoples shall remember and turn,
All races will bow to the Lord,
Who holds dominion over nations:
The well-fed kneel before God, all destined to bow low.

My soul lives for the Lord!
My children will serve,
Will proclaim God to the future,
Announcing to people yet unborn, "God saves."

From the English translation of The Roman Missal © 1973, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved

Affirmation of Faith

*See 1 Cor. 15:1-6; Mark 16:9(16:1-9);
Matt. 16:16; Rev. 22:13; John 20:28*

**This is the good news which we have received,
in which we stand,
and by which we are saved,
if we hold it fast:**

**that Christ died for our sins
according to the scriptures,
that he was buried,
that he was raised on the third day,
and that he appeared
first to the women,
then to Peter, and to the Twelve,
and then to many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of the living God.
Jesus Christ is the first and the last,
the beginning and the end;
he is our Lord and our God. Amen.**

Because He Lives

God sent His son, they called Him Jesus
He came to love, heal, and forgive.
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

Chorus:

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.
Because He lives, All fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
And feel the pride and joy he gives.
But greater still the calm assurance,
This child can face uncertain days because He lives.

Chorus

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.
Because He lives, All fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

And then one day I'll cross that river,
I'll fight life's final war with pain.
And then as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He reigns.

Chorus

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.
Because He lives, All fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.