

WELCOME TO...



IN THE BEGINNING... GOD!

The Presbyterian Church of Saint David
Early Morning Service November 20, 2011
In Search of Living Faith

Silent Preparation for Worship: Reflect on the Reformation doctrine: *Sola fides*- – “The doctrine of *sola fide* or "by faith alone" asserts God's pardon is granted and received through faith”

We give thanks to you that you are the Lord our God and the God of our fathers forever and ever.

Through every generation you have been the rock of our lives, the shield of our salvation. We will give you thanks and declare your praise for our lives that are committed into your hands, for our souls that are entrusted to you, for your miracles that are daily with us, and for your wonders and your benefits that are with us at all times, evening, morning and noon. **O beneficent one, your mercies never fail; O merciful one, your lovingkindnesses never cease.** We have always put our hope in you. For all these acts may your name be blessed and exalted continually, O our King, forever and ever. **Let every living thing give thanks to you and praise your name in truth, O God, our salvation and our help. Blessed are you, O Lord, whose**

Name is the Beneficent One, and to whom it is fitting to give thanks.

Hymn: All creatures of our God and king 433

Prayer of Confession: Gracious God, you call us to trust you, to take you at your word, and we do, but then we don't. We fret and worry about things which are beyond our control and things which may never come to be. You call us to walk in your light and to follow your ways, but we turn from your light and your leading and stumble in the darkness of our fear, our pride, and our self-centeredness.

Forgive us, Lord, and grant that we who have not seen may have the grace to believe and to follow with our whole heart and soul, all on the strength of your promise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Absolution: Christ hears our confession and forgives our sins. **Christ, have mercy on us and show us a new way.**

Sung response: Lord, have mercy 336

Passing the Peace Let us share the peace of the Lord with one another. **The peace of the Lord be with you.**

Prayer for Understanding

Monotheism – One God

There is one true God whom to know is life eternal, whom to serve is joy and peace. God has created all that is. The whole universe testifies to the majesty and power of its Maker.

Scripture Reading: **From the Book of Deuteronomy 6: 4-5**
Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. *Silence for reflection*

Hymn; Love the Lord your God 715

Trinity – One in three

Therefore, with the one church universal we believe in one God, eternal Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, three in one, one in three, equal in power and glory. God is the Father to whom we come, the Son through whom we come, the Spirit by whom we come.

Scripture Reading: **From the Book of Matthew 28:18-19**

Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit... *Silence for reflection*

Hymn: Father I adore you 292

Revelation

God has come to us. The Lord spoke to the people of Israel and entered into covenant with them. From Israel came Jesus Christ, the Son of God, bringing salvation through a new covenant entered by faith. The Lord continues to come to us by the Holy Spirit, God present in the world, and Guide to the church, the new Israel.

Scripture Reading: **From the book of 2 Timothy 3: 14-16**

...as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness...

Hymn: Lord, be thy word 494

Worship

We worship almighty God, the source of all life. With thanks we acknowledge God's wisdom, power, faithfulness, and love. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be!

Scripture Reading: **From the book of John 4:23-24**

...the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

Hymn: Joyful, joyful, we adore you 410

Hymn: Eat this bread 527
*In company with all believers in every time and beyond time, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread. **This is the Lord's supper of love. This is the love that God has ordained for all, The love that unites us because it is the essence of God.***
*We come by Jesus' invitation to this holy supper so full of mystery. **We come to be one with each other, To taste the essence of heaven in community.***

*Lord Jesus Christ you give us contentment and life. **You are the One who gives us nourishment. We open our hearts to taste the offering of life you bring. God be with us!***

*Let us lift up our hearts. **We lift our hearts to God.***

Let us give God thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving (concluding with...)

Come, Holy Spirit, come! Bless our food, and bless our drink.

Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, and in each other,

Hymn: Behold the lamb of God 525

Communion

Hymn Now to Christ who loved us 554

Dismissal Blessing Go, knowing that your life has been touched by grace. Go, convinced that you are connected to a larger world. Go, filled with the love of the Gospel of Christ.

May the blessing of God who loves you, be yours;
the blessing of Jesus, the crucified, be yours;
the blessing of the Spirit, who resides in you,
be yours, now and forever. The Rev. Dr. Art Van Seters,

Hymn: May the God of hope go with us 726