THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Lord's Day July 2, 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you and favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may fix our eyes on him and steadfastly follow in the paths of your kingdom. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candles

Call to Worship:

Leader: The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples.

People: The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Leader: Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage. Psalm 33:10-12

People: Let us worship God.

*Hymn: *Battle Hymn of the Republic* back panel

*Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

God our Father, you led men and women to this land, and, out of conflict, created in us a love of peace and liberty. We have failed you by neglecting rights and restricting freedoms. Forgive pride that overlooks national wrong or justifies injustice. Forgive divisions caused by prejudice or greed. Have mercy, God, on the heart of this land. Make us compassionate, fair, and helpful to each other. Raise up in us a right patriotism, that sees and seeks this nation's good; through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Time for Personal Confession

Response: *O Lord, Have Mercy* #578

O Lord, have mercy; O Lord, have mercy;
O Lord, have mercy, have mercy on us.
O Christ, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy;
O Christ, have mercy, have mercy on us.

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared. Psalm 130:3-4

Leader: God, in Christ, redeems us from all our sins. This is the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Gloria Patri: *Glory Be to the Father* #581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings:

Offertory

*Doxology: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; #606
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayer for Illumination:

God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. Amid all the changing words of our generation, may we hear your eternal Word that does not change, and may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Psalter: Psalm 145:13-21

(People respond singing *Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure* #42)

Leader: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does. The LORD upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

People: Verse 1

Leader: The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

People: Verse 2

Leader: The LORD is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does. The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

People: Verse 3

Leader: The LORD watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy. My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.

People: Verse 4

Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

Anthem: *From Sea to Shining Sea* Bates/Ward

Text: Hymn #338, Congregation please join choir on verse 3

Time for Young Disciples

(Preschool children may return to their pew or gather at the piano door where today's shepherd will lead them in a time of special activities.)

*Hymn: *This Is My Song* #340

Scripture: Acts 11:1-18

Sermon: Let Us Die to Make Men Free

*Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

RESPONSE: *The First Song of Isaiah* Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

RESPONSE: *Holy, Holy, Holy* Argentine folk song

Holy, holy, holy, My heart, my heart adores You!
My heart knows how to say to you: You are holy, Lord!

RESPONSE: *Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen* #553

Christ has died; Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
Christ has died; Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

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.

PRESENTING AND TAKING THE ELEMENTS

(All who profess faith in Christ are invited to come to the table using the center aisle and return to their seats using the outside aisles.)

CLOSING PRAYER:

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

People: And all that is within me, bless God's holy name!

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

People: And forget not all God's benefits.

All: God of majesty and light, you hold the whole world in your hand. So we give you our great praise that in Jesus Christ all people may see your glory. We thank you for revealing Jesus to be your Son, and for claiming our lives in baptism to be his glad disciples. By your Spirit, may peace descend upon us that we may follow him with grateful hearts. Take us and all we have to be useful in your service, God of all nations, in the gracious name of Jesus Christ, your Son, by the power of your Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

*Response: *Christ, We Do All Adore Thee*

Christ, we do all adore Thee, and we do praise Thee forever;
Christ, we do all adore Thee, and we do praise Thee forever;
For on the holy cross hast Thou the world from sin redeemed.
Christ, we do all adore Thee, and we do praise Thee forever.
(Interlude)
Christ, we do all adore Thee.

*Benediction

Closing Voluntary

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*Please stand if you are able

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Ushers: James Allums, Dee Allums, Lois Hejl, Al Hejl

Shepherd: Chris Bray

Liturgist: Sharon Templeman

Reader: Charles Gavin

Preparing Communion: Lisa Thompson

Serving Communion: Charles Gavin, Terri Moehring, Sharon Templeman, Lisa Thompson

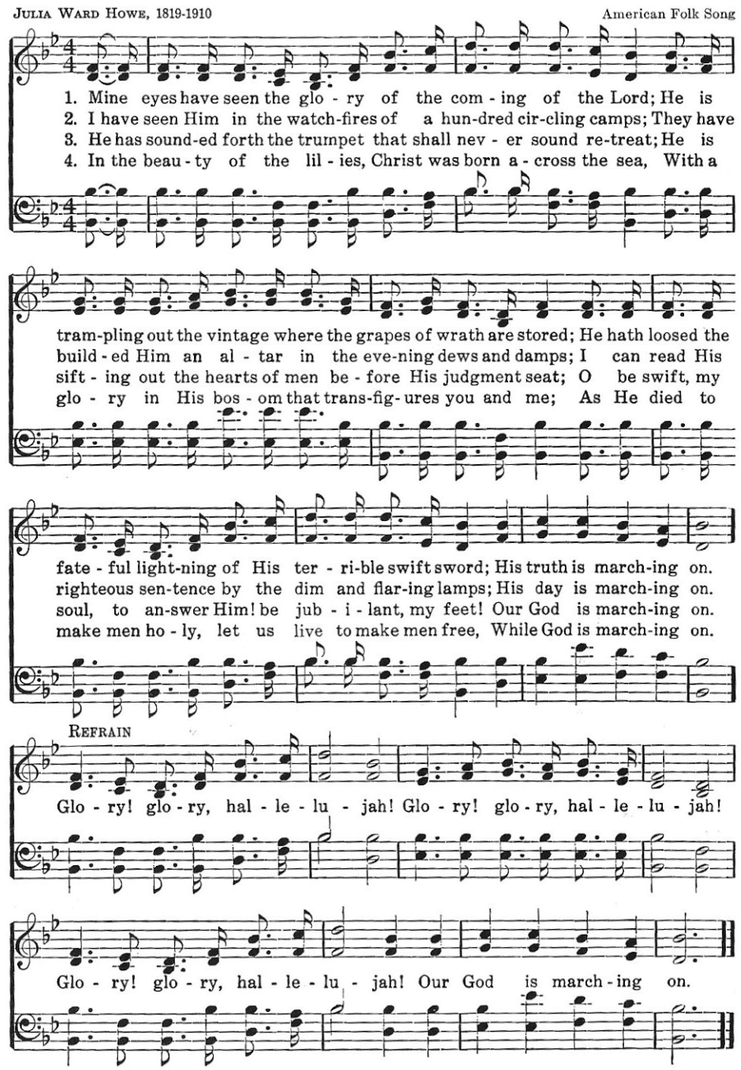
UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, July 2
12:00 noon Communion Reception hosted by Evangelism Committee

Tuesday, July 4
Happy Independence Day!
Church office closed

Sunday, July 9
9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

Battle Hymn of the Republic



THE INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP at Westminster Church is always open to persons who wish to join us in witness and service to Jesus Christ. If you are interested in church membership or desire more information about this congregation, please indicate on the Friendship Pad or speak to the pastor, or one of the elders following the service.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Nacogdoches, Texas

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
July 2, 2017

1 The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that
the Gentiles also had received the word of God. 2 So when Peter went
up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him 3 and said,
"You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them."
4 Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story:
5 "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I
saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four
corners, and it came down to where I was. 6 I looked into it and saw
four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles and birds. 7 Then
I heard a voice telling me, 'Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.'
8 "I replied, 'Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has
ever entered my mouth.'
9 "The voice spoke from heaven a second time, 'Do not call
anything impure that God has made clean.' 10 This happened three times,
and then it was all pulled up to heaven again. Acts 11:1-10