

Prayer of Preparation

O God, our Father,
creator of the universe whose
glory is past our imagining,
You sent your Son,
Jesus the Christ,
to be with us and one with us,
draw us to him by your Spirit,
so that we might grow
in wisdom and stature and favor
with you and others,
so that your grace might be
on us and move through us
into your world.

"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go" Words and Music by Christopher Miner.
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"Steadfast" words and lyrics written by Leslie Jordan and Sandra McCracken
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Welcome!

We are grateful that you joined us today and would love to keep in touch. After worship, please join us downstairs for refreshments provided by Arbor Dale's Patience Group.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Refreshments for next Sunday: Kindness Group.
Contact Teresa Taylor 828-504-0234.

Continued thanks for your food donations to Feeding Avery Families! You have all made a HUGE difference! We are still accepting non-perishable donations by the back door for pickup on Thursday mornings. Monetary donations toward our new building are welcome as well. For more info, please contact Patty at 828-783-0824.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Service for the Lord's Day
2 January 2022



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GREETING

Leader: *The Lord be with You.*

All: And also with you.

PRELUDE *Perfect Love (by Josh Garrels)*

* **CALL TO WORSHIP** *Psalm 8*

* **HYMN OF PRAISE** *O Love That Will Not Let me Go*

*O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.*

*O light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.*

*O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.*

*O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

*The Light has come into the world, and people loved
darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.
We are those people so let us confess our sin to God in
whose light we see the light.*

* **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*God of grace, you have given us Jesus, the light of the
world, but we choose darkness and cling to things
that hide your love. Immersed in ourselves, we have
not let him be born again in us this Christmas season.
We have not let him raise us up into new life with you.*

*Baptize us with your Spirit, that, forgiven and
renewed we might grow in wonder, ask big questions,
receive bigger answers, and go out to tell of your
glory and goodness.*

* **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

*The true light that gives light to everyone was coming
into the world. All who received him, who believed in
his name, he gave the right to become children of God.*

* **PASSING THE PEACE**

* **HYMN OF PREPARATION** *#581 Tis So Sweet
to Trust in Jesus*

SCRIPTURE AND SERMON *Luke 2:41-52
Brandon Davis*

* **COMMUNION HYMN** *#460 Let Us Break Bread
Together on Our Knees*

* **CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

All: And also with you.

Leader: *Lift up your hearts.*

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

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

Leader: *Therefore we join our voices with all the
saints and angels and the whole creation
to proclaim the glory of your name.*

**All: 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* **HYMN OF SENDING** *Steadfast*

*I will build my house
Whether storm or drought
On the rock that does not move
I will set my hope
In your love, O Lord
And your faithfulness will prove
You are steadfast, steadfast*

*By the word you spoke
All the starry host
Are called out by name each night
In your watchful care
I will rest secure
As you lead us with your light
You are steadfast, steadfast*

*I will not trust in the strength of kings
On your promise I will stand*

*I will shout for joy, I will raise my voice
Hallelujah to the Lamb!
You are steadfast, steadfast*

*In the moment of emptiness
All was fulfilled
In the hour of darkness
Your light was revealed
In the presence of death
Your life was affirmed
In the absence of holiness,
You are still God.*

*You are steadfast, steadfast
You are steadfast, steadfast.*

* **BENEDICTION**