

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY The Power of Your Love (Bullock) Ensemble

*DOXOLOGY #607

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

—Sending—

*HYMN #295 Go to the World

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Grace Greater Than Our Sin (Towner) Joshua Allen

You may be seated after the light passes you in the aisle.

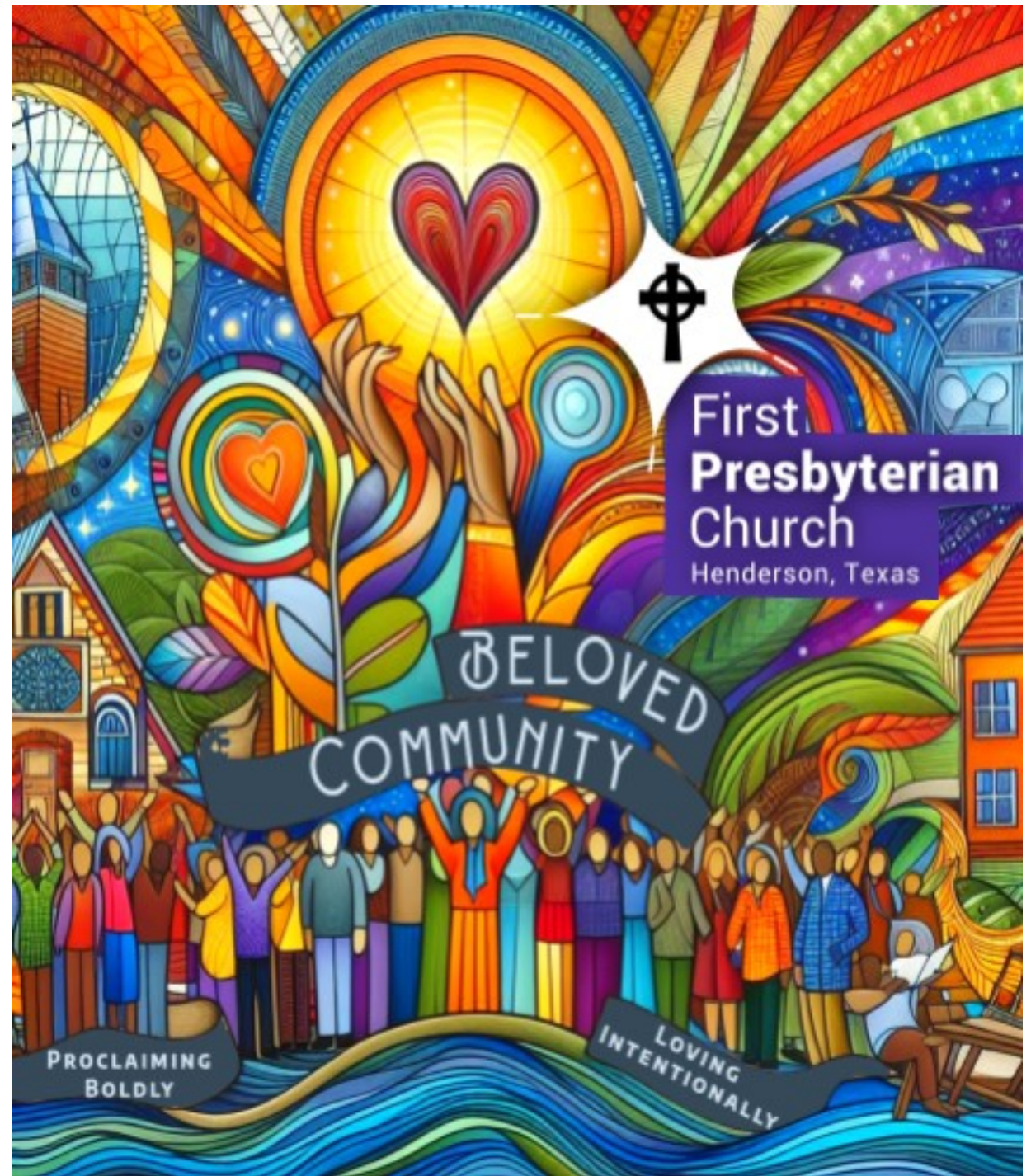


*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



Parts of today's liturgy were provided by Barbara Chaapel.

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August 18, 2024

13th Sunday after Pentecost

(*) Please rise in body or in spirit
Bold Italic Letters indicate congregational response

— Gathering —

PRELUDE

The Name of Jesus

Joshua Allen

[a medley of His Name Is Wonderful (Mieir), There's Something About That Name (Gaither),
and Blessed Be the Name (Clark/Hudson)]

WELCOME

Liturgist: Suzanne Cross

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 111:1-4)

Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the congregation.

Great are the works of the Lord studied by all who delight in them.

Full of honor and majesty is God's work, and God's righteousness endures forever.

The Lord has gained renown by wonderful deeds, The Lord is gracious and merciful.

***HYMN # 435**

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

CONFESSION

The proof of God's amazing love is this: that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Christ rose for us. Christ reigns in power for us. Christ prays for us. With such assurance, we need not fear confession, but simply draw near to our maker. Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life and sent his Spirit to be with us always. We confess that we have not trusted in the truth of that Spirit to enliven our hearts, to set us in the ways of justice, and to free us from fear. We have turned away from the gift of Christ's presence. Forgive us, and turn our hearts back to you, that we may be your Beloved Community, walking in the footsteps of the One who came to transform the world.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Eph. 4:31-32)

***GLORIA PATRI #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.*

—Word—

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Ephesians 5:15-20

Bible p. 183, LG p. 238

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

John 3:1-21

Bible p. 88, LG p. 114

The word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Radical Words about Radical Change

Rev. David Reeder

—Response—

***Hymn #462**

I Love to Tell the Story

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Confession of 1967)

In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all. The risen Christ is the Savior of all humanity. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as his reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which begins with the apostles and continues through all generations.

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinners. The power of God's love to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.