

Announcements

INVITATION... We worship the God who inhabits our world and dwells in our lives. We need not look up to find God, we need only to look around: within ourselves, beyond ourselves, into the eyes of one another. We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God, we need only listen to the music of life, the words of children, the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat. We worship the God who inhabits our world and who dwells in our lives.

WELCOME... No matter your circumstances, your background, or your reason for being here, you are welcome. We believe the church is the perfect place for imperfect people!

WE ARE THREE CHURCHES WITH ONE CONGREGATION... we are all brothers and sisters together in Christ; worship with us *every* Sunday morning!

OUR MISSION... "We are a dedicated community of believers that endeavors to demonstrate God's love to the world in which we live and serve."

WE WELCOME MS. SHIRLEY LEVINES... to the organist's bench this morning, our pastor is Joe Allmond, CRE

FUN & FLEX... 6:00 pm at Arvon, Choir Rehearsal at 7:00

TWO CENTS A MEAL... Presbyterian Hunger Relief Program – collection box in the entryway.

NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 30th... is a fifth Sunday. We will worship at 11:00 am at Trinity~New Canton and celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Communion). There is no Sunday School on fifth Sundays.

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH, AUGUST 6th IS OUR FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY... we enjoy food and fellowship with our Fabulous Fellowship Breakfast[®] at 9:30 in the Arvon Fellowship Hall. Join us next month and bring a friend!

ABOUT THE BELGIC CONFESSION OF FAITH... The Belgic Confession, written in 1561, owes its origin to the need for a clear and comprehensive statement of Reformed faith during the time of the Spanish inquisition in the Lowlands. Guido de Brès, its primary author, was pleading for understanding and toleration from King Philip II of Spain who was determined to root out all Protestant factions in his jurisdiction. Hence, this confession takes pains to point out the continuity of Reformed belief with that of the ancient Christian creeds...

Birthdays and Anniversaries

July 23rd: Paula Bishop
July 26th: Andrew Paul Griffin
July 28th: Julie Haynes

July 29th: Gayle Bashore
July 29th: Marie Clifton

Welcome



Fork Union Presbyterian Church

July 23rd 2017

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



Like us on Facebook: "Christ Presbyterian Parish"

The Gathering

Ringing of the steeple bell, calling the faithful to worship

Replenishing the baptismal font, reminding us we are all God's children

Scripture: Matthew 12:33-35

Greeting One Another and Life of the Parish

▼ **Our Invitation: The Beginning of the Worship Service**

*All the world is God's own field, fruit unto God's praise we yield;
Wheat and tares together sown, are to joy or sorrow grown;
First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest, grant that we, wholesome grain and pure may be*

Call to Worship – Psalm 86:11-17 (Unison)

Leader and *People*: Teach me your way, LORD, so that I can walk in your truth. Make my heart focused only on honoring your name. I give thanks to you, my Lord, my God, with all my heart, and I will glorify your name forever, because your faithful love toward me is awesome and because you've rescued my life from the lowest part of hell. The arrogant rise up against me, God. A gang of violent people want me dead. They don't give a thought for you. But you, my Lord, are a God of compassion and mercy; you are very patient and full of faithful love. Come back to me! Have mercy on me! Give your servant your strength; save this child of your servant! Show me a sign of your goodness so that those who hate me will see it and be put to shame—show a sign that you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Leader: Come, let us worship our God!

Opening Prayer

▲ **Hymn of Praise: # 459 – Father We Praise Thee**

▼ **Prayer of Confession (Responsive)**

Leader: Merciful God, you plant each of us like seeds in the same field and together we are nourished and nurtured by the sun. We sway in the wind and are refreshed by the rain. We are blessed by the knowledge that you want us to grow towards what you call us to be.

People: When we deprive others of that same opportunity, forgive us. When we want to uproot those whom we believe do not belong in our part of the field, forgive us. When we label others as good or bad rather than accept them for who they are, forgive us. When we are reluctant to acknowledge that we ourselves are a mixture of weeds and wheat, forgive us. When we are afraid to look into the fields of our own lives to see what is growing there, forgive us.

Leader: O God, you know us inside and out, through and through.

People: You search us out and lay your hand upon us. You know what we are going to say even before we speak.

Leader: So we pray that you will help us to reach out to the uprooted and rejected, the lonely and the outcast, and to develop and grow the good in ourselves, in others and in the world...

Silent Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness: 2 Timothy: 8-10

▲ **Gloria Patri (#579)**

The Word

▼ **First Scripture Reading – The Old Testament: Isaiah 44:6-8**

Special Music – Choir: “Bringing In the Sheaves”

Second Scripture Reading - The Epistle: Romans 8:12-25

▲ **Hymn of Reflection: # 390 – O Savior In This Quiet Place (Verses 1-4)**

▼ **The Word Read – The Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**
The Word Proclaimed – “Where are the tares?”

Our Response to the Word

Affirmation of Faith – The Belgic Confession - Article 2: The Means by Which We Know God (Unison)

We know him by two means: First, by the creation, preservation, and government of the universe, since that universe is before our eyes like a beautiful book in which all creatures, great and small, are as letters to make us ponder the invisible things of God: his eternal power and his divinity, as the apostle Paul says in Romans 1:20: All these things are enough to convict men [and women] and to leave them without excuse. Second, he makes himself known to us more openly by his holy and divine Word, as much as we need in this life, for his glory and for the salvation of his own.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer (“Debts and Debtors”)

Our Offering to God

▲ **Song of Praise: The Doxology (#592) & Prayer of Dedication**

▲ **Hymn of Commitment: # 539 - Savior Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise (Verses 1-2)**

The Sending

▲ **Charge & Blessing**

▲ **Choral Response “Amen” (# 586)**

▲ **Extinguishing of the Candles and the Recessional into the World**