

# ***THE SERVICE OF WORSHIP***

*“Let those refuse to sing, who never knew our God.” Isaac Watts*

December 27, 2020

10:45 AM

THE PRELUDE

THE GREETING OF THE CONGREGATION

Minister: The Lord be with you!

**Congregation: And also with you!**

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS-PASTOR BARNES

## ***THE SERVICE OF PRAISE***

THE CALL TO WORSHIP-*PSALM 101:1-2*

Minister: I will sing of lovingkindness and justice!

**Congregation: To You, O Lord, I will sing praises!**

Minister: I will give heed to the blameless way; when will You come to me? I will walk within my house in the integrity of my heart!

**Congregation: I will sing of lovingkindness and justice!**

**To You, O Lord, I will sing praises!**

THE HYMN OF WORSHIP-*NO. 30*

**Our God, Our Help in Ages Past**

**Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.**

**Under the shadow of your throne, your saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.**

**Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone;  
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.**

**Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come;  
O be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.**

THE INVOCATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father which 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.**

THE HYMN OF DEVOTION  
**He Will Hold Me Fast**

1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
 2. Those He saves are His de-light, Christ will hold me fast;  
 3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;

When the tempt-er would pre-vail, He will hold me fast.  
 Pre-cious in his ho-ly sight, He will hold me fast.  
 Just-ice has been sat-is-fied; He will hold me fast.

I could nev-er keep my hold Through life's fear-ful path;  
 He'll not let my soul be lost; His Prom-is-es shall last;  
 Raised with Him to end-less life, He will hold me fast

For my love is oft-en cold; He must hold me fast.  
 Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.  
 'Till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last!

*He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;*

*For my Sa-vior loves me so, He will hold me fast.*

*(Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering plates on the table at the back of the sanctuary at the conclusion of the worship service, or you may give online by going to [www.tpcstatesboro.com](http://www.tpcstatesboro.com).)*

**THE SERVICE OF FAITH**

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH-THE 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. [\*universal]**

THE DOXOLOGY-NO. 733

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
 Praise Him all creatures here below, alleluia, alleluia!  
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,  
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!  
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Amen.**

THE SCRIPTURE READING-2 *PETER 3:10-13*

The Reader: The Word of the Lord!

**The Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

The Reader: May God's Word live in us!

**The Congregation: And bear much fruit to His glory!**

## ***THE SERVICE OF PRAYER***

THE PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Minister: Let us pray that the certainty of the coming

Day of Judgement will cause us to be diligent in the pursuit of godliness.

**Congregation: Heavenly Father, thank You for the gracious warnings given to us in Scripture concerning the coming Day of Judgement. Grant us hearts and minds that are stirred by these warnings to a greater pursuit of godliness, and to a greater anticipation of the New Heavens and New Earth that await us; this we ask in the Name of Jesus, Your eternal Son, who lives and reigns with You, and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

THE PSALM OF PREPARATION-*THE PSALTER 17A*

**Consider, Lord, a Righteous Cause (*stanzas 1 & 3*)**

**Consider Lord, a righteous cause; O listen to my cry!  
Give Your attention to my prayer, for my lips do not lie.  
Let justice from Your presence come by vindicating me;  
So let Your eyes see everything with perfect equity.**

**On You, O God, my soul has called, for You will answer me,  
O listen to my earnest words! Incline Your ear to me!  
In wondrous and amazing ways Your lovingkindness show;  
Your right hand saves those trusting You, to hide them from the foe.**

THE PRAYERS OF ADORATION

THE PRIVATE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

THE CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**Most merciful God, we humbly admit that we need your help. We confess that we have wandered from your way: we have done wrong, and we have failed to do what is right. You alone can save us. Have mercy on us: wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others. Bring forth in us the fruit of the Spirit that we may live as disciples of Christ. This we ask in the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

THE PRAYERS OF SUPPLICATION

## ***THE SERVICE OF WORD***

THE HYMN OF WORSHIP-*NO. 383*

**Almighty God, Your Word is Cast**

**Almighty God, your word is cast like seed into the ground;  
Now let the dew of heav'n descend, and righteous fruits abound.**

**Let not the foe of Christ and man this holy seed remove,  
But give it root in ev'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.**

**Let not the world's deceitful cares the rising plant destroy,  
But let it yield a hundred-fold the fruits of peace and joy.**

**Oft as the precious seed is sown, your quick'ning grace bestow,  
That all whose souls the truth receive, its saving pow'r may know.**

**THE SCRIPTURE LESSON-MARK 5:18-20**

**THE SERMON-PASTOR BARNES  
“Forbidden to Follow Jesus”**

**THE HYMN OF WORSHIP-NO. 164  
O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing**

**O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.**

**My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
To spread to all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.**

**Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.**

**He breaks the pow'r of reigning sin, he sets the pris'ner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.**

**He speaks and list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive;  
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.**

**Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosen'd tongues employ;  
Ye blind, behold your Savior come; and leap, ye lame, for joy.**

**THE BENEDICTION**

**THE POSTLUDE**

*All are standing*  
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