

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
5th Sunday of Easter. 10:00 am May 2, 2021

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WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather in the name of the living Christ to worship God.

**People: Surely, God is in this place and calls us to worship in spirit and in truth.**

Leader: God's love is for you and for all people everywhere.

**People: That we may share God's love and life, may we be renewed in the refreshing Spirit of the living Christ.**

Leader: The living Christ is with us.

**People: Praise the Lord!**

OPENING PRAYER

\*HYMN OF PRAISE (see insert)  
"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**We thank you, gracious God, for Jesus Christ the true vine, with his roots eternally grounded in you. We rejoice that by grace we have been grafted into him, to be branches on a vine which bears the loveliest of all the fruits of earth. Yet we confess that all is not well with the way we live.**

**Please forgive us for the occasions when we have been the ones to introduce disease into the vine, preferring its contamination to the vigor of health.**

**Forgive us for neglecting to draw deeply on the sap of Life, for our tendency to wander instead of growing on the framework you provide, for being content, and sometimes even proud of, a few sparse or undersized fruits, for the apathy which lets us to go through some seasons without bearing any fruit.**

**Have mercy on us. Please do not lose patience or sever us completely from the true vine. Rather heal our diseases, discipline and train our wandering tendrils, prune our unfruitful branches and cut away our diseased ones. May we remain in Christ and he in us, through all the changing seasons of life. Let us delight in bearing the fruits of love which are our true purpose and joy. For your Name's sake. Amen!**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*GLORIA PATRI

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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:1-8

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 8:26-40

SERMON

The Rev. Natasha Sudderth-Davis

RESPONSIVE HYMN

"Take Me to the Water to Be Baptized"

(see insert)

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERING

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name: **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.**

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

THE 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.

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*HYMN "At the Cross (Love Ran Red)" (see insert)

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE

**\*Those who are able, please stand.**

**Leading Worship:** The Rev. Natasha Sudderth-Davis, Pastor; Chuck Eckel, liturgist; Leah Metzger, Accompanist; Jeanne Hilgendorf, Elder of the Month.

We warmly greet all who have come to worship God. Your presence will enhance our worship experience and our fellowship together. Sincere thanks to each of you for your participation in the service. Glory be to God!

### Announcements

**Monday Morning Yoga**

**Bible Study** Tuesdays at 10 am

**Wednesday Night Fellowship- 6:00** (fellowship time will run to the 3rd week in May and then we will break until school starts or after Labor Day)

**Prayer Meeting** Thursdays 9:30 am in the church office



**First Presbyterian Church**

310 Plantation Road, Perry, Florida, 32348



***"The Baptism of the Ethiopian Eunuch by the Apostle and Deacon Saint Philip" Herman Nauwincx, 1623***

**“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”**

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; To His feet your tribute bring. Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore His praises sing. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

Praise Him for His grace and favor To our fathers in distress; Praise Him, still the same as ever, Slow to chide and swift to bless. Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in His faithfulness! Father-like, He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He knows. In His hands He gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Widely yet His mercy flows. Angels in the height, adore Him; You behold Him face to face. Saints triumphant, bow before Him; Gathered in from every race. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

**“Take Me to the Water to Be Baptized”**

Take me to the water. Take me to the water. Take me to the water to be baptized.

I love Jesus. I love Jesus. I love Jesus, Yes, I do.

He’s my Savior. He’s my Savior. He’s my Savior, yes, he is. Glory hallelujah. Glory hallelujah. Glory hallelujah to be baptized.

**“At the Cross (Love Ran Red)”**

There's a place...Where mercy reigns...And never dies. There's a place...Where streams of grace...Flow deep and wide. Where all the love...I've ever found...Comes like a flood...Comes flowing down.

**(Refrain)** At the cross, at the cross I surrender my life. I'm in awe of You. I'm in awe of You. Where Your love ran red, and my sin washed white, I owe all to You. I owe all to You, Jesus.

There's a place...where sin and shame...are powerless. Where my heart...has peace with God...and forgiveness. Where all the love...I've ever found..comes like a flood...comes flowing down.

**(Refrain)**

Here... my hope is found. Here... on holy ground. Here I bow down. Here I bow down. Here...arms open wide. Here... You save my life. Here I bow down. Here I bow. **(Refrain)**

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