

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – May 17, 2020**  
*Presbyterian Heritage Sunday*

Prelude *“One Thing Remains”* Redman

**Welcome and Announcements**

+ *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art* **# 457** (PH)

*“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.” (Psalm 19:14)*

+ CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive) **Psalm 66**

Bless our God, O people; let the sound of his praise be heard,  
who has kept us among the living;

**For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.**

We come into your house with our offerings;

to pay you our vows we promised when we were in trouble.

**We went through fire and through water;**

**yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.**

+ *The Power of Your Love* Bullock

+ **Prayer of Adoration (Unison):** Loving God, in whom we live and move and have our being, we come to you this day to learn of your will for our lives. Heal our wounds; lift our spirits; give us courage and confidence to boldly serve you in all that we do. Help us to choose life in you, that we may keep the commands of Jesus, follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and witness to the hope that is within us, sharing Christ’s love in a hurting world. Amen.

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

Lord of mercy, there are so many times in our lives when we feel alone... now more than ever. We wonder where you are. We cry out to you in our confusion, pain, and hurt. And when you do not immediately grant the prayers of our cries, we can begin to doubt that you care... or even exist. Help us look around and see the many ways in which you have blessed our lives. Forgive us when we are so quick to doubt and so slow to listen... to others, and to you. Give us a spirit of patience and willingness to be ready to hear your voice. Strengthen us for the ministries of love and hope that you have placed before us. Hear now our prayers to remove that which causes us to look down and stumble, rather than look ahead to the possibilities before us... [time of silent prayer... ‘AMEN’]

Friends, believe the good news:

**In Jesus Christ, our appointed Judge and Savior, we are forgiven! Amen!**

**Prayer of Illumination (Unison):** Heavenly Father, to know you is to love you. By your Holy Spirit of truth, who is alive in us, help us to know your Word and keep your commandments. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Acts 17:22-31**

**1 Peter 3:13-16a**

**John 14:18-21**

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

**Message**

**“Religious... or Ready?”**

Rev. Chan Willis

**+ We Believe...**

**Hebrews 10:21-25**

“Since we have a great priest over the house of God,  
let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance  
that faith brings... Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess,  
for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may  
spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together,  
as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—  
and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

**Call for and Dedication of Our Offerings**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION:** O loving God, we give you thanks that you have placed in the hearts of your faithful people the gift of generosity and the desire to keep your commands. Bless these gifts and use them to reveal to all tribes, nations, and peoples your love in Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**+ Doxology**

**# 592 (PH)**

**Sharing of Prayer Concerns and “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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. **Amen”**

**+ Healer of Our Every Ill**

**# 2213 (STF)**

**Charge and Benediction**

*God Be With You Til We Meet Again* (verse 3 only)

**# 540 (PH)**

**Postlude**