

**Edgewood Presbyterian Church
Homewood, Alabama
Reformation Sunday
October 31, 2021**

**Please text any prayer requests to 205-794-3887 before the Sharing of the Peace.
Please include your name, unless you wish the request to be anonymous.**

Prayer of Preparation

*Fill this place with your Spirit, O God.
Dwell among us again, as you have from generation to generation. Amen.*

Chiming of the Trinity

The Waters of Baptism

For what are you thankful this morning?

Prelude *Prelude and Fugato on Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*
LOBE DEN HERREN *David Lasky*

Welcome Rev. Joe Genau

Introit *Sing and Be Glad*

*** Call to Worship**

Julie Metheny, liturgist

Rejoice — the people of God are gathering,
From East and West, from North and South.
We have been apart.
But we have remained together, connected by God's Spirit.
We follow Jesus, who calls us to the river and to the table —
Where we are known as disciples, as light-bearers, as beloved.
We follow Christ, who leads us here.
Here together, as one people.
Here together, to hear God's Word, to share one another's burdens,
To give glory to God and to find our peace.
To restore our souls.
Rejoice — the people of God are gathered!

Prayer of the Day

Hymn 405 Praise God for This Holy Ground HEYMONYSTRAAT
1 Praise God for this holy ground, *Refrain:*
place and people, sight and sound. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

God's goodness is eternal.
2 Praise God in whose word we find
food for body, soul, and mind. (Refrain)

3 Praise God who through
Christ makes known
all are loved and called God's own.
(Refrain)

4 Praise God's Spirit who befriends,
raises, humbles, breaks, and mends.
(Refrain)

5 Though praise ends, praise is begun
where God's will is gladly done. (Refrain)

Invitation to Reconciliation

Prayer of Brokenness

**O Lord our God,
you call us to work for a world
where all will be fed and have dignity,
but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires.
You call us to seek justice and peace,
but we are satisfied with injustice and discord.
You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed,
but we do not insist on freedom for all.
Forgive us, O Lord.
Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit,
so that all may know your justice and peace;
through Jesus Christ, your Son.
We share in silence the burdens of our own hearts...**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, and restored to new life!

Gloria

Glory to God,
whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son,
whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit,
whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 4:1-16

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God**

Psalter

Psalm 78:1-7

¹Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

²I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, ³things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

⁴We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

⁵God established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which God commanded our ancestors to teach to their children;

⁶that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children,

⁷so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget God's works, but keep God's commandments;

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-4, 10-13

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God**

Sermon

"We're Here"

*We two have paddled in the stream,
from morning sun till dine;
But seas between us broad have roared
since auld lang syne.*

***Hymn 506**

Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table!

COPELAND

1 Look who gathers at Christ's table!
Hear the stories that they bring.
Some are weeping; some are laughing;
some have songs they want to sing.
Others ask why they're invited,
burdened by the wrong they've done.
Christ insists they all are welcome.
There is room for everyone.

ancient followers appear,
saints confessing how they wrestled
with their guilt, their doubt and fear.
Peter tells of his denying
Christ was ever in his sight;
Paul relates his fruitless efforts
to obliterate the light.

2 Clouds of light surround the table;

3 Their sad stories are repeated
in a thousand different ways,

but they share one thing in common:
they all end in thanks and praise
for the host who has invited
north and south and east and west
to converge around this table,
where all life is fed and blest.

and prepare to be surprised
by the host whose hands are wounded,
who will open wide your eyes
when he blesses bread and breaks it—
truth and manna from above!—
and then passes wine that wakens
in your heart the taste of love.

4 Bring your joy and bring your sadness,

***Sharing of the Peace**

Announcements for the Community of Faith

Stewardship Moment Richard Galbraith

Concerns of the Church & Prayers of the People

Please text your prayer requests to 205-794-3887.

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Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Anthem *Jesus Christ Here Among Us*

***Doxology**

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

***Invitation to the Lord's Table**

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Communion of the People

Music at Communion

Dominus Regit Me (The King of Love My Shepherd Is)

Prayer after Communion

Hymn 409 God Is Here!

1 God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

2 Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;

ABBOT'S LEIGH

here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.

3 Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here, as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.

Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt

Commissioning of the Music Ministries

A Mighty Fortress is Our God Martin Luther

Charge from the Steps

***Charge and Benediction**

***Choral Benediction**

***Postlude God of Grace**

CWM RHONDA

arr. Paul Manz

keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe