

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

*Carl Snow*

**All: Gift-giving God, we bring you what we can offer, our time, our talents, our finances, our very selves, in the hope that what we bring, you might magnify, and multiply, for the work of your love in the world. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #686 O God, Our Help In Ages Past**

O 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 Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
sufficient is Thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.  
Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,  
from everlasting Thou art 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.  
Time, like an ever-rolling stream, soon bears us all away;  
we fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.  
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
still be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home!

**\*Charge and Benediction**

*Rev. Dr. Scott Rollins*

Leader: Remember, as our time of worship draws to a close and our lives of service begin anew, go out into the world in peace. Return no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, love everyone. That God's light and love, justice and joy, might be for you and all people everywhere. Amen.

**\*Congregational Benediction**

**Make us one, Lord, make us one;  
Holy Spirit, make us one.  
Let your love flow so the world will know  
we are one in you**

**Postlude**

**Greeters** *Diana Davis, Sue Wheeler*  
**Ushers** *Barbara Riehl, Nancy Noel, David Noel*  
**Liturgist** *Carl Snow*  
**Music** *Bob Eubanks, Nancy Wells, George Hill, FCPC Choral Ensemble*  
**Bridge Interim** *Rev. Dr. Scott Rollins*

**Announcements**

*Grandma's Pajamas – September 6<sup>th</sup>, Lunch at Sam & Andy's. If you are interested in joining Grandma's Pajamas or want more information please join us for lunch!*

*September 13<sup>th</sup>, Grandma's Pajama's will begin our 12<sup>th</sup> year, sewing each Wednesday from 9am to 12pm!*

*Centennial Homecoming, September 17<sup>th</sup> – Join us for worship with lunch to follow! There will be a potluck lunch in the fellowship hall immediately after worship. We have invited former staff and members as well as friends of the church to celebrate with us so please bring a little extra.*

*Second Friday Presbyterians, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm at South Coast Pizza*



**FOUNTAIN CITY  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
1923-2023**

**September 3, 2023**

**Prelude**

**Word of Welcome**

*Rev. Dr. Scott Rollins*

**Call to Worship**

*Carl Snow*

Leader: We gather hoping to see God,  
**All: here in worship, we realize that we see God in one another.**  
Leader: We can see God  
**All: when we show one another honor,**  
Leader: when we pursue hospitality to strangers,  
**All: when we live in harmony with one another,**  
Leader: when we rejoice in hope.  
**All: Let us worship the visible God amongst us.**

**\*Hymn #90 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, Op'ning to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise;  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee!

Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, All who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus, which the morning stars began;  
Love divine is reigning o'er us, leading us with merc't's hand.  
Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife;  
Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life.

**Ritual of Friendship**

*Carl Snow*

*Members and Guests – Please sign and pass the friendship register located on the center aisle under the pew in front*

### **Call to Confession**

Carl Snow

Leader: God wants us to be ourselves. But every time we hurt one another, or ourselves, we get further and further away from who we are. It is in our confession, in admitting the truth of our lives, that we can be our genuine selves again. Let us join in our prayer of confession together:

### **Prayer of Confession**

Carl Snow

**All: God of love, you ask us to love one another fully, you tell us to bless one another, you encourage us to do good. But we have not listened to your words, instead of loving we have practiced hatred, instead of blessing, we have perfected cursing, instead of doing good, we have sought to get even. Forgive us for giving up. Give us grace to try again, and encouragement to make your ways, our ways. We pray, we wait, and we hope. Amen.**

*(Time for Silent Confession)*

### **Assurance of Forgiveness and Peace**

Carl Snow

Leader: God's love for us is genuine. When we need it the most, God's grace washes over us seeping into the cracks of our brokenness and saturating our thirsty hearts. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

### **\*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. Amen.*

### **\*Passing the Peace**

Carl Snow

Leader: As God has poured out the grace of forgiveness and love and peace through Christ, let us also share that grace among ourselves. Peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you!**

### **Prayer of Illumination**

Carl Snow

Leader: O Holy Creator, you spoke all of creation into being, we ask that you keep speaking to us now. Speak to us as we read Scripture, that we might hear your voice ringing clear and concise through the many voices around us. Speak to us, that we might hear and understand. Amen.

### **Psalm Reading Psalm 105:1-6**

Carl Snow

### **Anthem Blessings**

We pray for blessings, We pray for peace, Comfort for family, protection while we sleep.  
We pray for healing, for prosperity. We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering  
And all the while, You hear each spoken need, Yet love is way too much to give us lesser things.

Chorus

'Cause what if your blessings come through raindrops, What if Your healing comes through tears?  
What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know You're near?  
What if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise?

We pray for wisdom, Your voice to hear, And we cry in anger when we cannot feel You near  
We doubt your goodness, we doubt your love As if every promise from Your Word is not enough  
And all the while, You hear each desperate plea and long that we'd have faith to believe.(Chorus)

When friends betray us, when darkness seems to win We know the pain reminds this heart  
That this is not, this is not our home. This is not our home! (Chorus)

'Cause what if your blessings come through raindrops What if Your healing comes through tears?  
What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know You're near?  
What if my greatest disappointments or the aching of this life  
Is a revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy?  
What if trials of this life. The rain, the storms, the hardest nights,  
Are your mercies in disguise. Amen!

### **Old Testament Reading Exodus 3:1-15**

Rev. Dr. Scott Rollins

### **Sermon Moses' Call**

Rev. Dr. Scott Rollins

### **\*Affirmation of Faith (from A Brief Statement of Faith)**

**All: We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

### **\*Hymn #461 In Remembrance**

In remembrance of Me, eat this bread. In remembrance of Me, drink this wine,  
In remembrance of Me, pray for the time When God's own will is done.

In remembrance of Me, heal the sick. In remembrance of Me, feed the poor.  
In remembrance of Me, open the door And let your brother in, let him in.

Take, eat, and be comforted; Drink and remember, too,  
That this is My body and precious blood Shed for you, shed for you.

In remembrance of Me, search for truth. In remembrance of Me, always love.  
In remembrance of Me, don't look above, But in your heart, look in your heart,  
Look in your heart for God. Do this in remembrance of Me.

### **The Invitation**

*The sacrament of the Lord's Supper is Christ's gift to His church. This boundless gift is offered without regard to denominational affiliation, church membership, or personal merit. Communion is a gift of grace whereby through symbolic elements of bread and fruit of the vine, we are mystically united with the presence of Christ. Jesus invites all who desire a living relationship with Him to dine at his table.*

### **Holy Communion**

### **Words of Institution**

### **Serving of the Bread and Cup**

### **Prayer after Communion & The Lord's Prayer**

Rev. Dr. Scott Rollins

**All: 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**

### **Call for Offering**

Carl Snow

Leader: Why do we give each week? We give because we have received so much from God. We give to practice the gratitude for all that God has done for us. We give because we trust that God can do more with what we have than we can do alone. So let us practice our gratitude this morning through the giving of our gifts.

### **Offertory**

### **\*Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts  
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost**