

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***Affirmation of Faith: The Apostle's Creed**

Hymnal P. 35

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Opportunity to respond to God in giving: Plate offering to NOROC Mission

Duet: Pastor Jerry and Janet Chastain will be singing "So send I You", Margaret Clarkson/ "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go", Mary Brown

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God our God, You know these words from our heart before we speak them: Accept all we have and are, O God, in the service of Jesus Christ, and strengthen us with your Spirit's power, now and forever. Amen.

***Doxology:** #606

Communion Table Service of the Lord open to all as we sing:

***Hymn:** "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" #438

SENDING OUTSIDE THE CHURCH WALLS TO BE CHRIST

Benediction: Moderator Elder Gene Deason, Mission Co-Worker, Carol Schempp,
Rev. Dr. Janice Six, HR and Rev. Robert Field, HR

Postlude: "Open the Eyes, That I May See" with Kirk Stroman

Cover photo: A child at a gate partially open is taken by Petru Solca, President of NOROC Tulcea, Romania. New Opportunities for Romanian Orphaned Children or NOROC holds the promise to Romanian Children and Ukrainian refugees the hope to pass through the gate. NOROC is our backyard mission in each of our forty churches. We are following our faith outside our church doors all the way around the world. Surely, we help the kids and the families, but in fact, we are the ones who are blessed.



Friday, September 30, 2022



**153rd Meeting of Palo Duro Presbytery
First Presbyterian Church, Sweetwater**

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

CONTEMPLATING OF GOD'S PEOPLE IN PRAISE

Prelude: God of the Sparrow, Vajda/Schalk, 1983, Kirk Strohman

Welcome: Pastor Kathy Monroe, Rev. Rich Schempp, Dr. Fred White,
Moderator Rev. Elder Gene Deason, Pastor Jerry and Janet Chastain

***Call to Worship:** Psalm 78:1-4 and 12-16, 72

The Leader: Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from old, things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders which he was wrought. In the sight of their fathers, he wrought marvels in the land of Egypt. He divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap. In the daytime, he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a fiery light.

The Presbytery: He cleft rocks in the wilderness and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep. He made streams come out of the rock and caused waters to flow down like rivers. With upright heart, he tended them and guided them with skillful hand.

Prayer of Confession: God, we are blessed because you do not count our sins against us. When we acknowledge our sins, you forgive us, and we are guilty no more. When we acknowledge our sins, you become our hiding place and surround us with confidence and deliverance, and great freedom. Free us now. Remind us that dwelling with you and your purpose for our lives is far better

than any temptation we face. Thank you for your great grace and unfailing compassion. In Jesus' name, we pray now silently.

Quiet Contemplation and Confession. Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace: But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us, and we are saved through Him. [Rom. 5:8]

***Hymn:** "I Love You, Lord" (repeat three times), #627

***Passing of the Peace:**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

FALLING INTO GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination:

Text: Proverbs 28:19 from The Message, "If people cannot see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves; but when they attend to what he reveals, they are most blessed."

Sermon: "Vision" with Elder Fred White, First Central Presbyterian Church and NOROC Founder