



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SHELBYVILLE, TENNESSEE
Service for the Lord's Day
November 15, 2020



Dear Friends,

As our nation continues to face an uncertain future it appears fairly certain we will have a different administration in the Whitehouse for the next four years. I will pray for their success as I have for the current administration's success.

Since I was a child, I have been told the Unites States of America is the greatest nation in the world perhaps even in all human history. That may be true. I'll leave that up to smarter people than me to make that call.

However, I will share with you my observation about America and greatness. It has been my experience personally and it has also been confirmed in our history that America is at its greatest when we are a unified nation.

Clearly, we are not a unified nation today and in my opinion our greatness suffers because of it. If we want to make America great again or build America back better, we will have to do it together as a nation.

We will need to put aside the vitriol of partisan politics. We will have to stop vilifying one another. We need to start listening to one another. No one political party or person has the right answer. It's somewhere in-between. Let's work together to find the best solution to our problems as a nation and a people. There are solutions to our problems. We just must be willing to work together to find them.

Can we do this? Of course, we can. Will we do it? We haven't been willing to so far. Perhaps now we will. We have seen what happens when we stand divided. Let's see what happens when we stand united. Oh wait, we already know that too. When we stand united, we do indeed become the greatest nation in the world.

Let's make American great again. Let's come together and work shoulder to shoulder with one another. Let's keep as frontlets before our eyes Jesus' words to "love one another as I have first loved one." If we do that, we will without question be a great nation. I pray for this. I urge you to join me in prayer and be for the world an example of what love can accomplish.

Grace and Peace,

Taylor

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

Youth and Children's Announcements

Cindy Lamb

Prelude

Billie Crowell

Call to Worship:

Psalm 117

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

Leader: Praise the Lord, all nations!

People: Extol him, all peoples!

Leader: For great is his steadfast love toward us; the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

People: Praise the Lord .

*Prayer of Preparation

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

*Call to Confession

***Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, in Your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sins of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste to the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation.

We abuse Your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve You in the world as agents of Your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. In whose name we confess our sins. Amen

Time for Silent Confession

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri (Instrumental)

Billie Crowell

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

A Time for Young Christians

Kate Canady

Children's Church

Cindy Lamb

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 1 and Matthew 25:14-30

Sermon:

"The Gift of Talents"

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

Special Music:

"The Longer I Serve Him"

Billie Crowell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Prayer of Confession**

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SEALING OF THE WORD

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

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.

*Doxology (Instrumental)

Billie Crowell

Prayer of Dedication

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Charge and Blessing

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

*Postlude

Billie Crowell



Session — Monday, November 16th at 5:30pm
Pastoral Care—Tuesday, November 17th at 10am

ANNOUNCEMENTS ^{AND} EVENTS

****PLEASE WEAR A MASK OUT OF RESPECT ^{AND} CONCERN FOR OTHERS****

- ⇒ Children meet on Wednesday, November 18th-4-5:30pm
- ⇒ Friday, November 20th~Book Club gam at Never Rest Park *"The Spy and the Traitor"* by Ben Macintyre
- ⇒ Butter Braids delivery will be November 24th at 6:00pm.
- ⇒ Winter Coat Drive: Gently worn or new coats of 'all' sizes. Bring to Shelbyville 1st United Methodist Church on Monday-Friday 9:00am-2:00pm

Serving

Sunday, November 15th

Greeters **Bailey & Trena Little**
Hall Monitor **Theresa Blanton**
A Time for Young Christians **Kate Canady**
Children's Church **Cindy Lamb**
Nursery **Christy Jensen**

Sunday, November 22nd

Greeters **Mike Matusek & Tony Matusek**
Hall Monitor **Ginny Saylor**
A Time for Young Christians **Connie Crafton**
Children's Church **Cindy Lamb**
Nursery **Bea Marsh**

Hope, Peace, Joy, Love

Advent Readers & Candle Lighters

November 29

**Helen Garner
& Margaret Smith**

December 6

**John, Bea, Mary Ruth,
& Evie Marsh**

December 13

**James, Lori, Jacob,
& Susanna Smith**

December 20

Terry & Ginny Saylor

December 24

**Aksel, Christy, Annie-Grace,
Zoe & Molly Jensen**

Thank God for today.
Open yourself to God's surprises.
Do what is most important.
Accept that you can't do everything.
You are blessed and loved.

