



Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.  
O Divine Master, grant that I may not seek so much  
to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

*attributed to Francis of Assisi (1181-1226)*



**Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church**  
301 Patton Avenue NW, Roanoke, Virginia 24016  
Office Phone: 540.342.0264

*"Celebrating 125 Years of Faith and Service"*

**Twenty-Seventh Sunday  
in Ordinary Time**  
October 8, 2017

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Organist.....Mr. Frederick Bolden  
Stated Supply Pastor ..... The Rev. Vernie Bolden, Jr.  
Guest Musician.....Mrs. Mary Neal

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## **We Assemble in God's Name**

### **Organ Prelude**

### **Silent Prayers for Preparation**

*We prepare for worship*

*God of mercy, have mercy upon me. Let your light shine in my heart, and in my mind, that I may hear your word and be strengthened for service, as I join in worship with those gathered in this place. Amen.*

### **Chimes & Lighting of Candles**

**\*Call to Worship.....from Psalm 62**

**Leader:** For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is in him.

**People:** *God alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress;*

**All:** *I shall not be shaken.*

**Leader:** Trust in him at all times, O people;  
pour out your heart before him.

**All:** *God is a refuge for us; we will not be shaken.*

**\*Prayer of Adoration (unison):** Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place. Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed. Here may the aged find consolation and the young be inspired; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\* Hymn of Praise....."Praise Him! Praise Him!" .....# 106**

**\* An Affirmation of Faith**

**The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy universal church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

**\* Gloria Patri** ..... "Glory Be to the Father" ..... # 623

*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.*

**Invitation to Confession**

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and in faith let us confess our sin to God. Let us pray.

**Prayer of Confession (unison):** Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**Silent Confession**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: Hear the good news! God so loved the world that he gave his Only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

People: *God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.*

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel,

People: *In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.*

**\* Passing of the Peace and Welcome of Worshippers +**

Leader: Since we have been reconciled with God and with each other,

*People: let us now share the peace of God with one another.  
(Congregation greets one another, exchanging words of peace.)*

**Welcome, Announcements and Concerns of the Church  
Celebrations and Prayer Concerns.....Worship Leader  
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.*

**Prayer Response..... "Spirit of the Living God" .....# 247  
Special Music..... The Choir**

## **We Proclaim God's Word**

**Gospel Lesson.....Matthew 21:33-41.....page 1173  
Prayer for Illumination The Rev. Vernie Bolden, Jr.  
Sermon:..... "Who Are We?"  
Hymn of Commitment..... "They'll Know We Are Christians" .....# 284**

## **We Give Thanks to God**

### **The Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts**

**Offertory Prayer (unison):** Grant unto us, O God, the fullness of your promises. Where we have been weak, grant us your strength; where we have been confused, grant us your guidance; where we have been distraught, grant us your comfort; where we have been dead, grant us your life. Apart from you, O Lord, we are nothing, in and with you we can do all things. Accept our offerings of self and substance, we pray; in Jesus' name. Amen.

### **\* Choral Response**

*All things come of Thee, O Lord; and of Thine own have we given Thee.*

**\* Hymn of Thanksgiving..... "Amazing Grace" .....# 202**

# We Go in God's Name

## Charge, Benediction and Choral Response

**We Carry Our Light Into the World** ..... (*Congregation Seated*)

**Closing**..... "*He's Got the Whole World*" ... ..# 344

1. He's got the whole world...
2. He's got the wind and the rain...
3. He's got you and me brother... sister... brother

\*Those who are able may stand

+ Late worshipers seated

## *Welcome Visitors!*

We are glad you have joined us in worship today. Please fill out the card that the ushers gave you at the door. We hope to see you here again soon. Anyone who is interested in joining this part of Christ's church should speak to the pastor or one of the elders.

## + Notes from the Pastor +

- Join us for Bible Study: "Forming Faith" on Tuesday evening at 6:00 p.m. This week (10/10): 1 Samuel chapters 17 thru 24
- Office hours by appointment— contact [vernlee3@hotmail.com](mailto:vernlee3@hotmail.com), or call the office—540.342.0264
- Please continue to reflect & pray about your participation in Fifth Avenue's journey forward. Your thoughts and ideas are welcomed!

## Other Announcements

- There will be two offerings today— our regular tithes and offerings, and a special offering for hurricane/disaster relief
- The Adult Choir meets as announced. Come join the fellowship. New members are welcomed.
- *Remember:* Children are back in school and need good food in their bellies to help them learn! Bring a food offering to share.

## **Remember to Reach Out to and Pray for Members & Friends Who are Ill, Lonely, Recovering from Surgery or Shut-In**

Mr. William Copney—7924 Carriage Park Drive NW(24019) 982-6508

Mr. Bob Hale—Salem Health & Rehabilitation Center 355-7837  
1945 Roanoke Blvd, Salem VA 24153

Ms. Lois Hooks—1702 Franwill Ave NW (24017) 345-9173

Mr. Jim Slaughter—1219 Grayson Ave NW (24017) 366-0391

## **Congregational Prayer and Pastoral Concerns**

**For our nation and its leadership, for President Trump; for our state and local officials, and those elected to national office— for wisdom and compassion, for a spirit of cooperation and the overcoming of barriers; for a capacity to seek the greater good instead of personal gain**

**For the leaders of other countries, and the efforts of all who seek to bring *peace* to the world**

**For our enemies, both personal and national, including terrorists**

**For our pastor and his family; for our ministry together**

**For unity in the Church, cooperation among denominations, for people of other faiths and for those who have no faith**

**For all who mourn the deaths of loved ones and friends: *for the families of Betty Preston York, Benjamin Tyree, and Ralph Shepperson; for victims/families of attacks in Las Vegas, London, Charlottesville, Barcelona, Finland, and other victims of violence including in St. Louis (racial tension); mudslides in Sierra Leone, floods in China, of fires, the Mexico earthquake, victims of Hurricane Harvey, Irma, Jose, Maria, Nate & other tropical storms, dealing with the aftermath of both natural disasters and manmade accidents & for those who work to help them rebuild their lives; for those suffering from famine and hunger; for people in our own Roanoke & SW Virginia region***

**For those battling cancer & other health and life-challenging issues, for those dealing with depression, with addiction; for those recovering from illness or surgery: Bob Hale, Terry Campbell, Audra Williams, Pat Brown (Ruth's sister), Carolyn Coleman (cousin of Joyce & Fred), Rev. Dusty Fiedler, Anita Pendleton, Jim Slaughter, The Roberson family, Betty McFadden (Russ' mother), Cynthia & Nat Harris, Ruth Hilton, Brenda Williams, Jackie Manns, Harold Robertson, Paul Witting (with Parkinson's); Todd Moorman; health care workers and researchers; for the elderly**

**For our children and youth; for their teachers & school staff; for those in our neighborhood; for those who work with young people and seek to bring them to Christ and to nurture their faith in him**

**For our service men and women stationed around the world and their families, including Kevin & Bryan Preston.**

**For those who seek employment, for the under-employed, for the homeless, for those who are in fear of losing their homes or their jobs; for those under stress at work and at home.**