

# MORNING WORSHIP

February 11, 2018

10:15 A.M.

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## PREPARATION AND PRAISE

Prelude: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Bish/Wyeth

Welcome and Announcements

## ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

\* Call to Worship:

Psalm 29:2-4

*Atribuem ao Senhor a glória que o seu nome merece*

Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name,  
*adorem o Senhor no esplendor do seu santuário*  
worship the LORD in holy splendor.

*A voz do Senhor ressoa sobre as águas;*

The voice of the LORD is over the waters;

*o Deus da glória troveja,  
o Senhor troveja sobre as muitas águas.*

the God of glory thunders,  
the LORD, over mighty waters.

*A voz do Senhor é poderosa;*

The voice of the LORD is powerful;

*a voz do Senhor é majestosa.*

the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

\* Hymn: "Praise the Lord, Sing Hallelujah"

PH 188

\* God's Greeting:

Grace and peace be to you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**Who made heaven and earth.**

Blessed be God,

**And blessed is his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

\* Prayer of the Day:

**God of majesty and light, you hold the whole world in your hand. So we give you our great praise that in Jesus Christ all people may see your glory. We thank you for revealing Jesus to be your Son and for claiming our lives in baptism to be his glad disciples. By your Spirit, may peace descend upon us, that we may follow him with grateful hearts. Take us and all we have to be useful in your service, God of all nations, in the gracious name of Jesus Christ, your Son, by the power of your Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

\* Response: "Father, We Love You"

PH 634

## CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Call to Confession:

Psalm 105:1, 8, 3, 45

Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

**He remembers his covenant forever, the word he commanded, for a thousand generations.**

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**That they might keep his precepts and observe his laws. Praise the LORD.**

God's Will for Our Lives:

Matthew 22:37-40

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Jeremiah 31:33-34; Acts 2:38-39

Response: "What the Lord Has Done in Me"

bulletin p. 6

Congregational Prayer

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

\* Hymn: "I Love to Tell the Story"

PH 530

Prayer for Illumination

[Children age 3 - grade Pre-K may leave for Children's Church after the prayer.]

Scripture Reading:

II Samuel 7:1-17 (p. 301)

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: *Do Hard Things: Let God Write Your Story*

Prayer

\* Hymn: "Blessed Assurance: Jesus Is Mine"

PH 490

# OUR RESPONSE OF FAITH AND GRATITUDE

Profession of Faith of Fernando and Pamela Araujo Garcia

Baptism of Fernando Garcia

## *INTRODUCTION*

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,

baptizing them in the name of the Father

and of the Son

and of the Holy Spirit, and

teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.

And remember, I am with you always,

to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:18–20).

In God’s Word we learn

that we are born sinners

and that sin has made us so impure

that we must undergo a cleansing that only God can accomplish.

Baptism is the sign and seal of God’s promises

to accomplish this work of cleansing in his covenant people.

In baptism God promises by grace alone

to forgive our sins,

to adopt us into the body of Christ, the church,

to send the Holy Spirit daily to renew and cleanse us, and

to resurrect us to eternal life.

This promise is made visible in the water of baptism.

Water cleanses,

purifies,

refreshes,

sustains;

Jesus Christ is living water.

Through baptism Christ calls us to new obedience:

to love and trust God completely,

to forsake the evil of the world, and

to live a new and holy life.

Yet, when we fall into sin,

we must not despair of God’s mercy,

nor continue in sin,

for baptism is the sign and seal

of God’s eternal covenant of grace with us.

Our baptism also calls us to personally respond to God’s promises

by publicly declaring our faith in Jesus Christ

and promising to live wholeheartedly for him.

The apostle Paul declares, “If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’

and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead,

you will be saved” (Romans 10:9–10).

This morning we are privileged

to welcome Fernando and Pamela into the fellowship

of God’s people here at Fairlawn.

For Pamela, who was baptized before,  
today is a day to recognize the promises God made to her in baptism  
and to declare her love and commitment to Christ.

For Fernando, today is a day  
when he will receive the sign of God's promises  
in the sacrament of baptism  
and declare his love and commitment to Christ  
in response to God's work in his life.

We thank God that he has given both of them this desire  
and pray that as we hear their confession of faith,  
God would grant us the presence and guidance of his Holy Spirit.

### *PROFESSION OF FAITH*

I want to invite Fernando and Pamela to stand and answer the following questions in the presence of God and his people:

1. Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God sent to redeem the world, do you love and trust him as the one who saves you from your sins, and do you with repentance and joy embrace him as Lord of your life?
2. Do you believe that the Bible is the Word of God, revealing Christ and his redemption, and that this church faithfully proclaims this revelation?
3. Do you accept the gracious promises of God sealed to you in your baptism?
4. Do you promise to accept the spiritual guidance of the church in a spirit of Christian love and participate in its worship, fellowship, and mission?

*Answer: I do, with God's help.*

People of God,  
Do you promise to love and support Fernando and Pamela  
with your prayers, encouragement, and example?

*Answer: **We do, God helping us.***

### *BAPTISM*

In many parts of the Christian tradition, baptism takes place by immersion.

This symbolizes that, in the words of the apostle Paul,  
"We were therefore buried with [Christ] through baptism into death in order that,  
just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father,  
we too many live a new life" (Romans 6:4).

And though churches have practiced baptism over the years  
by both immersion and sprinkling,  
the word "baptism" is intended to make us think  
of being saturated or soaked with the cleansing work of Jesus.  
So even though the amount of water we use today  
will not be enough to cover Fernando physically,  
we want to picture him being soaked with the love of Jesus  
and raised by Christ's power to new life,  
just as Pamela and all of us were in our own baptisms.

The Bible makes this clear in the book of Ezekiel  
when God promises:

“I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean.

I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols.

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you;

I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees....

You will be my people, and I will be your God” (Ezekiel 36:25–28).

These are the unfailing promises of God  
to those who are baptized.

Fernando,

I baptize you

in the name of the Father,

and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ,

the only King and Head of the church,

Fernando and Pamela,

we receive you into the membership of this church.

May our great and good God

mercifully fulfill the promises he has made in your baptisms

and crown the commitments you have just made,

with his grace and blessings

through the power of his Holy Spirit. AMEN.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

\* Hymn: “In Christ Alone”

bulletin pp. 7–8

\* Offertory Prayer

Offering: Fairlawn General Fund

Offertory: “My Jesus, I Love Thee”

Gordon

\* Confession of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed (inside front cover of the Psalter Hymnal)

## **BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

\* Benediction:

Hebrews 13:20–21

May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**

\* Response: “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

PH 637

\* Postlude: “Fanfare”

Lemmens