



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God

October 1, 2023

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost and World Communion Sunday

**Indicates an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit as you are able.*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

TOWER BELLS

PRELUDE

Rhosymedre – Lovely

Wales; arr. Vaughn Williams

WELCOME

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 25

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; O my God, in you I trust.

Do not let me be put to shame or let my enemies exult over me.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me; for you I wait all day long.

Good and upright is the Lord who instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right.

And teaches the humble in his way.

Come, let us worship God.

*HYMN 457 (V.1-4)

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O most holy God, we pray that you grant to us your grace and in doing so, that we might live with each other in perfect unity. But we confess that living in unity with others is hard, especially when we are less gracious people than you would have us be. We judge others by their appearance rather than by their substance. We avoid some because they sound different to our ears and refuse to try and listen. And we assess some as inferior before we accept that they are every part our peer. Lord, send your Spirit to aid us in changing our minds about others and believing that all are equal recipients of your mercy and grace.

Silent prayer

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy and grace of the Lord is extended to all His creation, even to us when at times we feel most unworthy. Trust in the saving grace of our Lord Jesus, and know that we are forgiven and redeemed children of God.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

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.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Matthew 21:23-32

SERMON

Getting to Know You

Rev. Larry Van Hise

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Humbled by God's generosity, let us offer our gifts to God and God's ministries through Christ's church.

*Please leave your offering in the boxes at the front and rear of the sanctuary
or make your gifts online or via mail.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to witness to Christ's ministry in your world. Amen.

*RESPONSE

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYER

With fresh eyes and renewed hope, we join our voices with those around the world and with your heavenly chorus of all the saints to sing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER

...Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The elements will be served to you at your seat; please hold them and all will partake together.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Come, Let Us Eat

Liberia; arr. Carter

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN 510 (V. 1-4)

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Jamaica; arr. Carter

Worship Leaders

Rev. Larry Van Hise

Gloria Snyder, Organist

Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director

Ellis Finger, Liturgist

Ruthann Arras and Shirley Heinsohn, Communion Servers

Ruthann Arras and Wanda Joshua, Coffee Hour Hosts

Tech Support: Jacob Van Norman, Bill Bartlett, Rich Linnell, Pat Koefoed

* Music reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE. All rights reserved.