



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God

August 13, 2023

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

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

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

TOWER BELLS

PRELUDE

Prelude and Fugue in G Minor

J. S. Bach

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 85

Let me hear what God the Lord will speak for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet, righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

Faithfulness will spring up from the ground and righteousness will look down from the sky.

The Lord will give what is good and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness will go before him and will make a path for his steps.

Come, let us worship God.

*HYMN 488 (V. 1-3)

The God of Abraham Praise

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We praise your holy name, O living God, for you are the first, the last, beyond all thought and still the same. But Lord, we confess this morning that our thoughts and faith that you are ever-present in our lives is at times last in our minds, if there at all. In our days of joy and triumph, we quickly take credit rather than giving thanks to you on bended knee. And in our moments of chaos and distress, we seek to escape by our own devices instead of calling on you in prayer. O Lord, when it comes to our faith in you, we are indeed fickle people. Send your Spirit into our lives to help us sustain a faith like Abraham's, so that you are the first and always the same in our lives. In Jesus' name we pray.

Silent prayer

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The love and faithfulness of God is certain and everlasting. And it is in that love for us that God sent Jesus Christ to be one among us and to submit himself for our salvation. Friends, rest assured that we are forgiven people. Amen.

*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

Genesis 12:1-4a

Matthew 14:22-33

SERMON

Get Out of the Boat!

Rev. Vernon Van Hise

ANTHEM

Gather Us In

words and music by Marty Haugen
Richard Taylor, soloist

Here in this place – new light is shining,
Now is the darkness vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in – the lost and forsaken,
Gather us in – the blind and the lame;
Call to us now and we shall awaken,
We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young – our lives are a myst'ry,
We are the old – who yearn for your face,
We have been sung through out all of hist'ry,
Called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in – the rich and the haughty,
Gather us in – the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
Give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
Here will take the bread of new birth,
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
Call us anew to be salt of the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
Not in some heaven light-years away,
But – in this place the new light is shining,
Now is the Kingdom – now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in all peoples together,
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

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 box at the front 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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 383 (V. 1-4)

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Voluntary

J. Stanley

Worship Leaders

Rev. Vernon Van Hise

Bud Martin, Guest Organist

Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director

Donna Van Norman, Liturgist

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

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