



**First
Presbyterian**
CHURCH *Pottstown*



Service of the Lord's Day

November 8, 2020

God's People Gather

"I was glad when they said unto me, let us go to the House of the Lord!" (Psalm 122:1)

With glad hearts, we welcome you to worship among this community of believers!

The decorated tubes in the pews are guides to assist us in caring for one another by maintaining safe distances. You may move the tubes in either direction in the pew to accommodate your "bubble." We invite you to hum the hymns or meditate on the words as the Sanctuary Singers sing on our behalf.

Greetings and Announcements

Prayer of Preparation

Great God, you have been generous and marvelously kind. Give us such wonder, love, and gratitude that we may sing praises to you and joyfully honor your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prelude Beach Spring Variations – Martin

*Call to Worship

L: The world belongs to God,
ALL: the earth and all its people.
L: How good it is, how wonderful
ALL: to live together in unity.
L: Love and faith come together
ALL: justice and peace join hands.
L: If Christ's disciples keep silent,
ALL: these stones would shout aloud
L: Open our lips, O God,
ALL: and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

*Hymn The Church's One Foundation

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is his new creation by water and the word.
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride.
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endured.

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, you give so generously and graciously to us. Forgive us when we are not generous and gracious with others. O Lord, you are so patient with us: forgive us when we are impatient with others. O Lord, you are so faithful with us: forgive us when our commitment to you is wavering or faint. Have mercy upon us, O God. (silence)

Assurance of Pardon

L: Friends, believe the good news:

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

L: Jesus says, "Follow me; I will lead you into life."

*Response

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Minute for Stewardship

God's Word is Heard

Time With Children

Anthem Let There Be Peace on Earth *with* I've Got Peace Like a River – arr. Wagner Chancel Handbells

Epistle Reading I Corinthians 13:1-13

Gospel Reading Luke 10:25-37

Sermon Faithful, Hopeful, Loving

Rev. W. Carter Lester, Jr.

God's People Respond

*Affirmation of Faith

L: We are not alone. We live in God's world.

P: We believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church, to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

(from the Iona Community)

Giving Our Gifts

Offertory

The congregation is invited to present pledges and offerings as symbols of our lives. If you wish to remain in your seat, an usher will receive them.

*Prayer of Dedication

O loving and generous God, we give you thanks for our many blessings. We dedicate these gifts and our written intentions for the new year in your name. Multiply them that your light might shine near and far; fill us that by your grace and power we might be faithful, hopeful, and loving with our gifts of time, talent, and treasure. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Doxology

We give thee but thine own, what-e'er the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

Prayers of the People

...The Lord be with you.
And also with you...

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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

God's Sends Us Out

***Hymn Here I Am, Lord**

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

***Blessing**

***Postlude Gavot – Boyce**

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Please leave the sanctuary by the side aisles and both doors; the deacons will guide you.

Our sanctuary singers and instrumentalists this morning are Katie DeNicco, Marguerite Detwiler, Tim Detwiler, John Genter, Gayle Hall, Andy Hazeltine, Laura Hazeltine, Julie Kovach, Sue Moyer, Sarah Pinard, Brent Stark, Susan Stark, and Rob Wade. Thank you!

The sanctuary flowers are given by Sandy White in loving memory of her Mother, Sara.