

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Commitment Sunday

A Service by the Congregation of Point Pleasant Presbyterian Church

November 8, 2020

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Eternal God, you are our hope and our salvation, for in Jesus Christ you have conquered death. Baptized in him, we are raised to new life. Increase in us our faith and keep us watchful, that we may welcome Christ with joy when he comes to set the whole world free. Amen.

### **PRELUDE**

*Variations of Amazing Grace*

Mark Hayes  
Sara Hoey, Organ

### **WELCOME**

Rev. Eileen Lindner

### **DEACON MINUTE FOR MISSION**

Jonathan Yount

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rejoice and be glad!

**For God is our salvation.**

Rejoice and be glad!

**For God is great.**

Elder Barbara Reusch

### **HYMN**     *For the Healing of the Nations*

For the healing of the nations,  
Lord, we pray with one accord;  
for a just and equal sharing  
of the things that earth affords;  
to a life of love in action  
help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom;  
from despair your world release,  
that, redeemed from war and hatred,  
all may come and go in peace.  
Show us how through care and goodness  
fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living,  
let it from the earth be banned:  
pride of status, race, or schooling,  
dogmas that obscure your plan.  
In our common quest for justice  
may we hallow life's brief span.

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy and gracious God,  
you are all light and wonder and glory.  
You are our strength and our delight;  
you give us all we need to live.  
Yet we are distracted by all the glitters,  
continually grasping for more.  
Rather than trust in your provision,  
we chase after our own happiness.  
Forgive us, Lord, and turn us back to you.  
Overwhelm us with your goodness  
and cover us with grace,  
for we know that you are the source of life,  
the fount of all that is good.  
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON**

### **RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE**

You, Creator God, have written  
your great name on humankind;  
for our growing in your likeness,  
bring the life of Christ to mind,  
that by our response and service  
earth its destiny may find.

## **\* PASSING OF THE PEACE**

## **DEDICATION OF OUR PLEDGES**

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST LESSON

*Amos 5:21-24*

I hate, I despise your festivals,  
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.  
Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings,  
I will not accept them;  
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals  
I will not look upon.  
Take away from me the noise of your songs;  
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.  
But let justice roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

This is the Word of the Lord!  
**Thanks be to God!**

### ANTHEM

*I Asked the Lord/I Found the Answer* Lange and Duncan  
Donna Wittmann

### GOSPEL LESSON

*Matthew 25:1-13*

‘Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, “Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the wise replied, “No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.” And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “Lord, lord, open to us.” But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.” Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

This is the Gospel of Christ!  
**Praise to you, O Christ!**

**HOMILY** *Shedding A Little Light*

Rev. Eileen Lindner

**HYMN OF MEDITATION**    *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers*

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers,  
and let your lights appear;  
the evening is advancing  
and darker night is near.  
The Bridegroom is arising  
and soon he will draw nigh.  
Up, watch with expectation;  
at midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning;  
replenish them with oil;  
look now for your salvation,  
the end of sin and toil.  
The marriage feast is waiting;  
the gates wide open stand;  
arise, O heirs of glory;  
the Bridegroom is at hand!

Our hope and expectation,  
O Jesus, now appear;  
arise, thou Sun so longed for,  
above this shadowed sphere!  
With hearts and hands uplifted,  
we plead, O Lord, to see  
the day of earth's redemption,  
and ever be with thee!

**THE RECEIVING OF NEW MEMBERS AND  
THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR  
Asher Bryce Heald**

Born February 1, 2020 at Jersey Shore Medical Center, Neptune, NJ  
Son of Justin and Tracy Heald  
God-son of Corey MacGregor

Receiving Justin and Tracy Heald into Membership by Letter of Transfer

\* The Profession 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 Pontious 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 catholic Church,**  
**the communion of saints;**  
**the forgiveness of sins,**  
**the resurrection of the body,**  
and the life everlasting. Amen

The Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Act of Baptizing

The Prayer of Dedication

The Welcome Litany

Elder:      Asher Bryce, you are now received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church. Through baptism, God has made you a member of the household of God, to share with us in the Priesthood of Christ.

Justin and Tracy, by professing your faith publicly, you have expressed your intention to grow in the covenant God made with you in baptism as members of this church.

I charge you, the people of Point Pleasant Presbyterian Church, to nurture and to love this family, and to assist them to be faithful disciples.

People:      With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you, Asher, Justin and Tracy, into Christ's church; for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support you, to share the good news of the gospel with you, and to help you know and follow Christ.

**ANTHEM**

*Baptized in Water*

Michael Seward  
Donna Wittmann, soloist

**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.**

**HYMN**

*I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry*

I was there to hear your borne cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.  
I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;  
In a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you on;  
You were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.  
If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk 'till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.  
When the evening gently closes in, and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Variation on Amazing Grace*

Hayes  
Sara Hoey, Organist