

## **SOMETHING ABOUT US**

Our Mission Committee report of 2005 included this statement, which continues to resonate as we consider who we are as a congregation:

*"We share a sense that God has called Mount Auburn to preach and teach a liberating, progressive theology as we design our worship and educational programs. We are part of a tradition that is "always reforming," and expect God to speak not just to us but also to other people, to different traditions and to each new generation. We value process theology, an open-ended theology, focused on God who is a living, creative, dynamic being, not captured by scriptures or our historical creeds. As one joins this congregation, we prefer not to ask, "Do you accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior?" Rather, we prefer to ask, "Will you serve God as revealed in the life and ministry of Jesus?" We find the compelling reference to God for us was the life and ministry of Jesus who differs from us in faithfulness, but not in human experience."*

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### **Everyone is welcome to worship at Mt. Auburn**

A special welcome is extended to students from the University, the College Conservatory of Music, and the hospitals. You are most cordially invited to regard Mt. Auburn as your church home during your period of study here.

We welcome and encourage children of all ages to worship with us. We also offer children's educational opportunities during the class year. **Children attend worship with their families.** All young children are welcome! Parents are encouraged to talk with the Pastors for more details.

### **Encounters Educational Programs**

Our Encounters educational programs offer learning opportunities for adults on Sunday mornings before worship in seasonal series and one-time sessions. Check the weekly announcements for the current schedule.

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### **About our Inclusive Language**

Following Christ's example of radical hospitality, we seek to use language in worship that allows us to grasp that all persons are created in the image of God. The language we choose is a reflection of our understanding that all names for God are metaphors, of the richness of scripture, and of the fullness of God. In order to expand our ways of understanding God; while we usually sing in the traditional language of the church, we seek to use a multitude of God's many names in liturgy. Jesus Christ, as not only God in human form, but an historical person, is referred to with appropriate gender, but often spoken of in other, expansive terms.

# MOUNT AUBURN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 10 , 2021

11:00 a.m.

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**PRELUDE**                      “Andantino”    Leon Boellmann

**WELCOME**

**INTROIT**                      **Come Let Us Worship God**    McKeever

Come, let us worship God.

Welcome everyone

to the love of God.

Rest for the weary...

Food for the hungry...

Hope for the people...

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (\*adapted from en fleshed ministries)    Yana Keck

Come, let us reimagine relationships so that power-over is no more and vengeance is not the only way to restore what is broken.

**The Living Christ loves mutuality, consent, and tenderness.**

Let us gather with accountability and open-heartedness as our invitations.

**God honors the sacred worth of all living beings.**

Let us be together, that we might tune ourselves to communal thriving, that honors the life and dignity of all people.

**HYMN #29**                      “O God, You Searched Me”    Farrell

**CALL TO CONFESSION**    Rev. Rebekah Nolt

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God we recognize the death-dealing systems like the death penalty are part of the violence in our society and in our world. But we also recognize there are acts of violence that happen around us everyday, that we participate in and perpetuate. Forgive us for the violence we perpetuate individually and participate in through: systems that oppress with weapons, systems that oppress with unjust payments of debt, systems that deny access to food, water and shelter for those in need. Forgive us our sin. We acknowledge the violence within our country and communities that uphold values of white supremacy, that participates in for-profit imprisoning and the death penalty, disproportionately stealing the lives of minorities.**

**Forgive us our sin. Empower us to stand up to injustice and violence. Move us to work for the end of all death-dealing systems of power.**

**Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

### **RESPONSE**

*“The Peace of the Earth”*

The peace of the earth be with you, the peace of the heavens too.

The peace of the rivers be with you, the peace of the oceans too.

Deep peace, falling over you.

God’s peace, growing in you.

### **FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

Deuteronomy 10:17-22

Yana Keck

## **TIME WITH THE YOUNGEST DISCIPLES**

### **SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

John 8:1-11

Rev. Rebekah Nolt

### **SERMON**

Patty Muhleman

### **\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From A New Social Creed for the 21st Century)**

Rev. Rebekah Nolt

In faith, responding to our Creator, we celebrate the full humanity of each person, all created in the divine image as individuals of infinite worth, by working for: a system of criminal rehabilitation, based on restorative justice and an end to the death penalty.

In the love incarnate in Jesus, despite the world’s sufferings and evils, we honor the deep connections within our human family and seek to awaken a new spirit of community.

In hope sustained by the Holy Spirit, we pledge to be peacemakers in the world and stewards of God’s good creation. Amen.

## **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY**

Thulaziswae- Traditional South African/Bob Dylan  
Chancel choir, Jane Carter- solo

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE/DOXOLOGY # 750** “ Goodness is Stronger than Evil”

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**          Prayer of Sister Helen Prejan

*God of compassion,  
You let your rain fall on the just and the unjust.  
Expand and deepen our hearts  
So that we may love as You love,  
Even those among us  
Who have caused the greatest pain by taking life.  
For there is in our land a great cry for vengeance  
As we fill up death rows and kill the killers  
In the name of justice, in the name of peace  
Jesus, our brother  
you suffered execution at the hands of the state  
But you did not let hatred overcome you.  
Help us reach out to victims of violence  
So that our enduring love may help them heal.  
Holy Spirit of God,  
You strengthen us in the struggle for justice,  
Help us to work tirelessly  
for the abolition of state-sanctioned death  
and to renew our society in its very heart  
So that violence will be no more.  
Amen*

**HYMN      What Does Our God Require of Us?**

- 1 What does our God require us?
- 2 Justice, kindness, walk humbly with our God.
- 3 To seek justice and love kindness and walk humbly with our God.

**BENEDICTION**

Rev. Rebekah Nolt

**RESPONSE #747**          “The Lord Now sends us Forth”

Enviado

**POSTLUDE**                  “Toccata in G Major”

Dietrich Buxtehude

# LOCAL – GLOBAL MINISTRIES AND PROGRAMS

## Supported by Mount Auburn

- Alcoholics Anonymous • Amos Project • Bethany House Cincinnati Brass Fellowship  
Cincinnati Scholar House Citizens United For Action (CUFA)  
Classics Club Book Discussion Group • Crossport  
GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network) • Heartland Trans Wellness  
Immigrant and Refugee Law Center • Intercommunity Justice & Peace Center
- League of Women Voters •
  - Mass Action for Black Liberation
- More Light Presbyterians • MORTAR
- October Festival Choir
- One Great Hour of Sharing • Open Stacks Book Club
- PAAD (Presbyterian Action Against the Death Penalty) • Presbyterian World Mission
- PFLAG (Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians and Gays)
- Safe & Supported • Saint George Food Pantry • Sierra Club
- SOS Art • Soteni • Sweet Cheeks
- That All May Freely Serve • Treehouse Cincinnati •
- Woman's City Club



### STAY CONNECTED TO MT. AUBURN

- Visit our website: [www.mtauburnpresby.org](http://www.mtauburnpresby.org),
  - Check us out on Facebook @ Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church
  - Church office: [office@mtauburnpresby.org](mailto:office@mtauburnpresby.org), 513.281.5945
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**MOUNT AUBURN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Presbytery of Cincinnati      Synod of the Covenant      Presbyterian Church, USA

**OUR STAFF**

Pastor ..... Stacey Midge  
Pastoral Resident ..... Rebekah Nolt  
Director of Music Ministry ..... Christian Miller  
Organists ..... Beth Troendly, Earl Apel  
Administration Manager ..... Nori Muro  
Resident Caretaker ..... Dan Davidson  
Pastor Emeritus ..... Harold Porter

**OUR SESSION**

• Faye Burdick, Clerk <u>Class of 2021</u> Eric Burgmann Amy Grady Jeana Lawson Pete Tuff	• David Chalk, Treasurer <u>Class of 2022</u> Marlene Muse Sequoia Powers-Griffin Susan Thomas Sara Renner	• David Simon, Administrator <u>Class of 2023</u> Dave Simon Judy Cunningham Sara Bick Julia Malkin
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**OUR DEACONS**

Mark Schuller and Elizabeth Marsh-Singh, Co-Moderators

<u>Class of 2021</u> Rob Biddinger Pat Basler Deb Carle Heather Graden	<u>Class of 2022</u> Earl Apel Dale Didier Linda Vaccariello	<u>Class of 2023</u> Elizabeth Marsh-Singh Mark Schuller Bonnie Bohn Rick Sowash Patty Muhlemann
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**OUR COMMITTEES & SESSION LIAISONS**

Congregational Engagement ..... Elizabeth Marsh-Singh, Sandee Ernst  
Earth Care Leadership ..... Pat Timm  
Education and Spiritual Nurture ..... Sara Renner  
Finance and Stewardship ..... Sara Bick, Susan Ingmire  
Justice Seeking ..... Linda Ford, Sequoia Powers-Griffin  
Nominations ..... Pete Tuff, Amy Grady  
Operations ..... Eric Burgmann  
Outreach ..... Lynn Hailey Marlene Muse  
Personnel ..... Jeana Lawson and David Simon  
Worship ..... Van Ackerman, Julie Malkin

**We Are a More Light Congregation**

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