FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Traditional Service
August 29, 2021

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE "Andante Tranquillo" from *Sonata No. 3, Op. Sonata No. 3, Op. 65*
Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where will my help come?
People: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
Leader: the Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
People: the Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.
All: Let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN #446

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken — AUSTRIAN HYMN

1 Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken,
Formed thee for a blest abode.
On the rock of ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

2 See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters
And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the Giver,
Never fails from age to age.

3 Round each habitation hovering,
See the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a covering,
Showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner
Light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you came to us in Jesus Christ to save us from the power of sin and death, and save us for lives of love, purpose, and hope. Yet we find it hard to hear the good news in your good news, when there are so many other promises of salvation offered to us that seem to require so much less: promises of money, possessions, achievement, even family. Forgive us, Lord, and open our ears and our hearts to the abundance of your grace, that we may truly welcome your good news and share it with others in our words, our lives, and our ministry.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Luke 18:18-27 Don Masters

Leader: The word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

SERMON The Rev. J.C. Austin

"A Good Word: Salvation"

WE RESPOND

HYMN #355

Hear the Good News of Salvation NETTLETON

1 Hear the good news of salvation;
Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy!
Come to us from heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love You!
Jesus Christ, You save from sin!
How I love You! Look upon me.
Love me still and cleanse within.

2 All the sins I have committed
To my Savior now I bring.
I bow down with tears of anguish;
Christ forgives and so I sing;
Jesus Christ, how much I love You!
Jesus Christ, You save from sin!
How I love You! Look upon me.
Love me still and cleanse within.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from "A Brief Statement of Faith")

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

CALL FOR OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory God is My Shepherd — Antonin Dvorak

Rebecca Erhardt, soprano

*Response - #592 — OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him, above ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

*Prayer of Dedication

CLOSING HYMN — #282

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee — WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee,
With hopeful heart through all thy ways,
God will give strength, whate'er betide thee,
And bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
Builds on the rock that nought can move.

2 Only be still, and wait God's leisure
In cheerful hope, with heart content
To take whate'er thy Keeper's pleasure
And all-discerning love hath sent;
No doubt our inmost wants are clear
To One who holds us always dear.

3 Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways,
But do thine own part faithfully;
Trust the rich promises of grace,
So shall they be fulfilled in thee.
God never yet forsook at need
The soul secured by trust indeed.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Allegro Maestoso" from *Sonata No. 2, Op. 65* Felix Mendelssohn

Flowers under the cross are in memory of Judith and Bob Eisenhart,
beloved parents of Judith Eisenhart Smullen.

If you would like to make a secure online donation to FPCB, you can visit fpc-bethlehem.org/donate, or use this QR code to go directly to that page (on your mobile phone, open the camera and point it at the QR code – it will take you to this website page).

First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem
2344 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18017
610-867-5865
fpc-bethlehem.org

Your attendance at church events constitutes permission to use your image (photos and video) in church communications. Questions about our policy: info@fpc-bethlehem.org