FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Traditional Service
Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost

October 22, 2023

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE "Introitus" from Eight Pieces for Organ, Op. 154, No. 1 Sigfrid Karg-Elert

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, let us sing to the Lord!
People: Let us shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!
Leader: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving,
People: singing joyful songs of praise!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN #416
Christ is Made the Sure Foundation WESTMINSTER ABBEY

1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious,
Binding all the church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever,
And our confidence alone.

2 To this temple, where we call You,
Come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
With Your wonted lovingkindness
Hear Your people as they pray,
And Your fullest benediction
Shed within its walls alway.

*Please stand if you are able.

3 Here bestow on all Your servants
What they ask of You to gain,
What they gain from You forever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Your glory
Evermore with You to reign.

4 Laud and honor to the Father,
Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit,
Ever three and ever one;
One in might and one in glory
While unending ages run.

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and Loving God, Scripture tells us that you are able to accomplish far more than all we can ask for or imagine. Yet we often act as if everything depends on us. We often fear to ask for or even imagine anything than what we can see or accomplish on our own. Help us to trust in you and your limitless grace, and empower us to be your bold and loving servants, so that we may follow wherever you lead us and share your love with everyone we meet.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Genesis 12:1-9 Cynthia Simmons

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

SERMON The Rev. J.C. Austin

"Going, Going…"

WE RESPOND

*SERMON HYMN #488
The God of Abraham Praise LEONI

1 The God of Abraham praise,
Who reigns enthroned above;
The ancient of eternal days,
The God of Love!
The Lord, the great I Am,
By earth and heaven confessed,
We bow before Your holy name,
Forever blest.

2 Your spirit still flows free,
High surging where it will;
In prophet's word You spoke of old
And You speak still.
Established is Your law,
And changeless it shall stand,
Deep writ upon the human heart,
On sea, or land.

3 You have eternal life
Implanted in the soul;
Your love shall be our strength and stay,
While ages roll.
We praise You, living God!
We praise Your holy name;
The first, the last, beyond all thought,
And still the same!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (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 Pontius 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION — Judy Smullen

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.

OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory All Good Gifts — Steven Rickards

Chancel Choir

We plow the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand.
God sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes, and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.

All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above.
Thank the Lord, thank the Lord for all his love.

He only is the Maker
of all things near and far.
He paints the wayside flower,
He lights the evening star;
winds and waves obey him,
the birds are fed;
much more to us, your children,
He gives bread.

All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above.
Thank the Lord, thank the Lord for all his love.

We thank you, then, O Father
for all things bright and good,
the seed-time, and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food.
the gifts we have to offer
Are what thy love imparts,
But chiefly thou desirest out thankful hearts.

All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above.
Thank the Lord, thank the Lord for all his love.

*Doxology #592

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*SENDING HYMN #447

Lead On, O King Eternal LANCASHIRE

1 Lead on, O King eternal,
The day of march has come;
Henceforth in fields of conquest
Thy tents shall be our home:
Through days of preparation
Thy grace has made us strong,
And now, O King eternal,
We lift our battle song.

2 Lead on, O King eternal,
Till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And holiness shall whisper
The sweet amen of peace;
For not with swords' loud clashing,
Nor roll of stirring drums;
With deeds of love and mercy
The heavenly kingdom comes.

3 Lead on, O King eternal:
We follow, not with fears,
For gladness breaks like morning
Where'er Thy face appears;
Thy cross is lifted over us;
We journey in its light:
The crown awaits the conquest;
Lead on, O God of might.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Chorale Pomposo" from *Eight Pieces for Organ,* Op. 154, No. 8 Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Flowers are in loving memory of Anne Miner from Kim Miner and Bill Parton