FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Summer Worship
The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

August 20, 2023

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Broken Vessels (Amazing Grace) Joel Houston
Contemporary Ensemble

WELCOME
*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN 487
When Morning Gilds the Skies LAUDES DOMINI

1 When morning gilds the skies,
My heart awaking cries:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer
To Jesus I repair:
May Jesus Christ be praised!

2 Does sadness fill my mind?
A solace here I find:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Or fades my earthly bliss?
My comfort still is this:
May Jesus Christ be praised!

3 Let earth's wide circle round
In joyful notes resound:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Let air and sea and sky
From depth to height reply:
May Jesus Christ be praised!

4 Be this, while life is mine,
My canticle divine:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this the eternal song
Through all the ages long:
May Jesus Christ be praised!

EMBODIED CONFESSON

WE LISTEN

*Please stand if you are able.

SCRIPTURE John 6:56-69 Amanda Gerrity

Leader: The word of the Lord;

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Rev. J.C. Austin

"Tough Words to Swallow"

WE RESPOND

REFLECTIVE TIME

*SERMON HYMN #366

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me ST. CATHERINE

1 Jesus, Thy boundless love to me
No thought can reach, no tongue declare;
O knit my thankful heart to Thee,
And reign without a rival there!
Thine wholly, Thine alone, I'd live,
Myself to Thee, entirely give.

2 O, grant that nothing in my soul
May dwell, but Thy pure love alone;
O may Thy love possess me whole,
My joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove;
May every act, word, thought be love.

3 O love, how gracious is thy way!
All fear before thy presence flies;
Care, anguish, sorrow melt away,
Where'er Thy healing beams arise.
O Jesus, nothing may I see,
Nothing desire or seek, but Thee.

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.

OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory Come Lord Jesus, Quickly Come Nathan Jess

Contemporary Ensemble

*Doxology

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me — GLORY TO GOD

Verse 1 (from *Glory to God*)

1 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.

*Prayer of Dedication

*SENDING HYMN — 423

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun (verses 1-4) — Duke Street

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run,
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2 To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And praises throng to crown His head;
His name, like sweet perfume shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.

3 People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.

4 Blessings abound where'er He reigns;
The prisoners leap to lose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all who suffer want are blessed.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Now Thank We All Our God — Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Dr. Barbara Thomson, Guest Organist