FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Reign of Christ

November 21, 2021

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Prelude on "Praise and Thanksgiving" arr. J. Daryl Hollinger

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: From the rising of the sun till its setting in the west,
People: God's holy name be praised!
Leader: On the lips of children, by babies in their parents' arms,
People: God's holy name be praised!
Leader: In the visions of the old and the dreams of the young,
People: God's holy name be praised!
Leader: Let all that has life and breath praise God!
People: Come, let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN #473

For the Beauty of the Earth Verses 1-4 DIX

1 For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies.

Refrain:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise.

2 For the wonder of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light.
(Refrain)

3 For the joy of ear and eye,
For the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony
Linking sense to sound and sight.
(Refrain)

4 For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild.
(Refrain)

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord of seedtime and of harvest, we confess that we take for granted the abundance of our land. We choose from a vast array in our grocery stores, but give little thought to those who labored to produce the food we enjoy. And while we are quick to complain about the weather, we do not marvel at the process that mixes seed, soil, sunshine and water to bring forth grain from the field, vegetables from the garden, and fruit from the tree or the vine. Forgive us, Lord, for our lack of gratitude, and for our failure to appreciate what a wondrous system you have devised to feed our bodies, even as your Word nourishes our souls. We pray this in the name of the Word Incarnate, Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE 2 Samuel 23:2-7 (O.T. p. 286) Joanne Kelhart
John 18:33-37 (N.T. p. 106)
Leader: The word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

SERMON The Rev. Cynthia Leslie Simmons
"Kingdom and Kindom"

WE RESPOND

HYMN
O Christ, What Can it Mean for Us? (see insert) KINGSFOLD
*TEXT BEING USED BY PERMISSION OF CCLI 7062984

1 O Christ, what can it mean for us to
claim you as our king?
What royal face have you revealed
whose praise the church would sing?
Aspiring not to glory's height, to power,
wealth, and fame, you walked a
diff'rent, lowly way, another's will your
aim.

2 You came, the image of our God, to
heal and to forgive,
to shed your blood for sinners' sake
that we might rise and live.
To break the law of death you came,
the law of love to bring:
a diff'rent rule of righteousness, a
diff'rent kind of king.

3 Though some would make their greatness felt and lord it over all, you said the first must be the last and service be our call.
O Christ, in workplace, church, and home, let none to power cling;
for still, through us, you come to serve, a diff'rent kind of king.

4 You chose a humble human form and shunned the world's renown; you died for us upon a cross with thorns your only crown.
But still, beyond the span of years, our glad hosannas ring,
for now at God's right hand you reign, a diff'rent kind of king!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from Philippians 2:5-11)

We are disciples of Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bend and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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 Psalm 135 Chancel Choir J. Daryl Hollinger

Hallelujah!
Praise the name of the Lord,
give praise, O servants of the Lord,
who stand in the courts of the house of our God!
Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good;
sing to his name, for it is lovely!

*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 #553

For the Fruit of Al Creation (see insert) AR HYDY NOS

*TEXT BEING USED BY PERMISSION OF CCLI 7062984

1 For the fruit of all creation,
Thanks be to God.
For the gifts to every nation,
Thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
Silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safekeeping,
Thanks be to God.

2 In the just reward of labor,
God's will be done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will be done.
In our worldwide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
God's will be done.

3 For the harvests of the Spirit,
Thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
Thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all that love has found us,
Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Praeludium in C Major, from *Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne*, BuxWV 137 Dietrich Buxtehude

Johanna Pearson, Music Intern, organ

Flowers under the cross are in gratitude of all our blessings from Betty Weaver

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

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