FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Sixth Sunday of Easter
Traditional Service
May 22, 2022

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Adagio in E — Frank Bridge

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather in the presence of our Shepherd God,
All: who calls us each by name,
One: who restores our souls,
All: who leads us in the ways of righteousness,
One: and whose goodness and love never stop pursuing us.
All: This is the God we have come to worship!

*GATHERING HYMN — #272
God of the Sparrow — Verses 1, 3, 4, & 5 — ROEDER

1 God of the sparrow
God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise

3 God of the rainbow
God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks

*Please stand if you are able.

4 God of the hungry
God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life

5 God of the neighbor
God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace

CALL TO CONFESSON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
But, O Lord, we are consumed with wanting more.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
But, O Lord, other pastures seem greener.
The waters aren't always still.
Our souls still thirst.
He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
O Lord, we long to be led by you,
though we may complain along the path.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.
And yet, O God, we do sometimes fear.
May we feel your presence, your comfort and your forgiveness anew.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
O God, sometimes we refuse to sit down at your table.
Forgive us and help us to see your overflowing mercy.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.
Forgive us, God, and lead us into your house.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE John 10:11-18 Judy Smullen

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

SERMON The Rev. Lindsey Altvater Clifton

"A Sheep Story"

WE RESPOND

*SERMON HYMN #177
I Will Come to You YOU ARE MINE
from *Glory to God* (see insert)

1 I will come to you in the silence
I will lift you from all your fear
You will hear My voice
I claim you as My choice
Be still, and know I am near
Refrain
Do not be afraid, I am with you
I have called you each by name
Come and follow Me
I will bring you home
I love you and you are mine
2 I am hope for all who are hopeless
I am eyes for all who long to see
In the shadows of the night,
I will be your light
Come and rest in Me
(Refrain)
3 I am strength for all the despairing
Healing for the ones who dwell in shame
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free And all will know My name
(Refrain)
4 I am the Word that leads all to freedom
I am the peace the world cannot give
I will call your name, embracing all your pain
Stand up, now, walk, and live
(Refrain)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH adapted from the Iona Abbey Worship Book

We believe in God, whose love is the source of all life, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that awaits to enslave us all, and whose love, defeating death, holds a promise of freedom. Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, in God we have faith; and in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the Earth and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness, to live in the freedom of forgiveness and the power of the spirit of love, and in the company of the faithful, wherever found. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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 Will There Really be a Morning — Craig Hella Johnson

Chancel Choir

Will there really be a "Morning"?
Is there such a thing as "Day"?
Could I see it from the mountains
If I were as tall as they?
Morning
Morning
Has it feet like Water lilies?
Has it feathers like a Bird?
Is it brought from famous countries
Of which I have never heard?

Oh some Scholar! Oh some Sailor!
Oh some Wise Men from the skies!
Please to tell a little Pilgrim
Where the place called "Morning" lies!

*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.

*SENDING HYMN #376

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling HYFRYDOL

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart

2 Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find that second rest;
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

3 Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

4 Finish, then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "La Rejouissance" from *Fireworks Music* G. F. Handel/arr. R. Gower

Worship Note: Today's Prayer of Confession is written by Rev. Emily Schlaman Larsen.

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