

First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem



Fifth Sunday After Easter Online Traditional Service

May 17, 2020

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE *Pastorale*

Howard Pangborn

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PASSING THE PEACE

OPENING HYMN

#489

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

UNSER HERRSCHER

1 Open now thy gates of beauty,
Zion, let me enter there,
Where my soul in joyful duty
Waits for God who answers prayer;
O how blessed is this place,
Filled with solace, light, and grace!

2 Gracious God, I come before Thee,
Come Thou also down to me;
Where we find Thee and adore Thee,
There a heaven on earth must be;
To my heart O enter Thou,
Let it be Thy temple now.

3 Speak, O Lord, and I will hear Thee,
Let Thy will be done indeed;
May I undisturbed draw near Thee,
While Thou dost Thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows,
Here is balm for all our woes.

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and Loving God, in Jesus Christ you have set us free from the power of sin, and free for loving service to you and our neighbors. But we struggle with what it means to live in the freedom of your Spirit. We are often tempted to submit again to selfishness, to indifference, even to fear. Forgive us, Lord, and fill us with your Spirit once again, that we may live in freedom and in faithfulness, and your love may shine forth from our lives.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

SPECIAL MUSIC "Sarabande" from Partita No. 1 BWV 825

Johann S. Bach

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Galatians 5:1, 12-25

Leader: The word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON

The Rev. J.C. Austin

"Loving Freedom"

WE RESPOND

HYMN

#434

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

KINGSFOLD

1 Today we are all called to be
Disciples of the Lord,
To help to set the captives free,
Make plow-share out of sword,
To feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
Make love and peace our fast,
To serve the poor and homeless first,
Our ease and comfort last.

2 God made the world and at its birth
Ordained our human race
To live as stewards of the earth,
Responding to God's grace.

But we are vain and sadly proud,
We sow not peace but strife,
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud
That threatens all of life.

3 Pray justice may come rolling down
As in a mighty stream,
With righteousness in field and town
To cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
An earth where conflicts cease,
A world that was created for
A harmony of peace.

4 May we in service to our God
Act out the living word,
And walk the road the saints have trod
Till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
Give thanks in one accord
To God who calls us all to be
Disciples of the Lord.

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 Meditation

Charles-Edouard Lefebvre

*Response - #592

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*Prayer of Dedication

CLOSING HYMN

All Creatures of Our God and King

#455

LASST UNSERFREUEN

Verses 1, 2, 5, & 6

1 All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing
alleluia, alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise him, alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

5 And everyone of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye, alleluia!

Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 All creatures, your Creator bless,
And worship God in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in one,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE