

**First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem**

**Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Digital Traditional Service**

**October 11, 2020**



***The Service for the Lord's Day***

***WE GATHER***

PRELUDE Gymnopedie No. 1

Erik Satie/arr. Noel Rawsthorne

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PASSING THE PEACE

OPENING HYMN

#429

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

ABBOT'S LEIGH

Verses 1-4

1 Lord, you give the great commission:

"Heal the sick and preach the word."

Lest the church neglect its mission,

And the gospel go unheard,

Help us witness to your purpose

With renewed integrity;

With the Spirit's gifts empower us

For the work of ministry.

2 Lord, you call us to your service:

"In my name baptize and teach."

That the world may trust your promise,

Life abundant meant for each,

Give us all new fervor, draw us

Closer in community;

With the Spirit's gifts empower us

For the work of ministry.

3 Lord, you make the common holy:

"This my body, this my blood."

Let us all, for earth's true glory,

Daily lift life heavenward,  
Asking that the world around us  
Share your children's liberty;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower us  
For the work of ministry.

4 Lord, you show us love's true measure:  
"Father, what they do, forgive."  
Yet we hoard as private treasure  
All that you so freely give.  
May your care and mercy lead us  
To a just society:  
With the Spirit's gifts empower us  
For the work of ministry.

### *WE CONFESS*

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, in calling us to follow him, Jesus calls us to love you, each other, our neighbors, even our enemies. Yet so often we misunderstand, or ignore, or refuse that call. We confuse love with amiability, or affection, or agreement. We make treating others with love conditional on how we feel about them, or how they treat us. Teach us the true meaning and power of your love in and through Jesus Christ. Help us to imitate Christ's love in what we do and say, and in what we do not do and say, so that our lives and ministry may be new incarnations of your love in the world.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### *WE LISTEN*

SPECIAL MUSIC "Panis Angelicus"

Cesar Franck

Rebecca Erhardt, Soprano

Thus Angels' Bread is made  
the Bread of man today:  
the Living Bread from heaven  
with figures dost away:  
O wondrous gift indeed!  
the poor and lowly may  
upon their Lord and Master feed.

Thee, therefore, we implore,  
o Godhead, One in Three,  
so may Thou visit us  
as we now worship Thee;  
and lead us on Thy way,  
That we at last may see  
the light wherein Thou dwellest aye.  
Amen.

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Matthew 5:43-48

Leader: The word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

SERMON

The Rev. J.C. Austin

“When You Can’t Pray Anything Nice...”

## *WE RESPOND*

HYMN

#408

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

GERMANY

Verses 1-4

1 Where cross the crowded ways of life,  
where sound the cries of race and clan,  
above the noise of selfish strife,  
we hear your voice, O Son of Man.

2 In haunts of wretchedness and need,  
on shadowed thresholds fraught with fears,  
from paths where hide the lures of greed,  
we catch the vision of your tears.

3 From tender childhood's helplessness,  
from human grief and burdened toil,  
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress,  
your heart has never known recoil.

4 The cup of water given for you  
still holds the freshness of your grace;  
yet long these multitudes to view  
the sweet compassion of your face.

## 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 "Expressivo" from 5 Works for Organ

Healey Willan

\*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

#289

O God of Every Nation

LLANGLOFFAN

1 O God of every nation,  
Of every race and land,  
Redeem the whole creation  
With Your almighty hand;  
Where hate and fear divide us  
And bitter threats are hurled,  
In love and mercy guide us  
And heal our strife-torn world.

2 From search for wealth and power  
And scorn of truth and right,  
From trust in bombs that shower  
Destruction through the night,  
From pride of race and station  
And blindness to Your way,  
Deliver every nation,  
Eternal God, we pray!

3 Lord, strengthen those who labor  
That we may find release  
From fear of rattling saber,  
From dread of war's increase;  
When hope and courage falter,  
Your still small voice be heard;  
With faith that none can alter,  
Your servants undergird.

4 Keep bright in us the vision  
Of days when war shall cease,  
When hatred and division  
Give way to love and peace,  
Till dawns the morning glorious  
When peace on earth shall reign  
And Christ shall rule victorious  
O'er all the world's domain.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Fanfare" from 5 Works for Organ

Healey Willan