FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Traditional Service
April 24, 2022

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE "Prelude" from *Prelude and Fugue in B flat minor, BWV 867*
Johann Sebastian Bach/arr. D. Macbeth
Dr. Aaron Patterson, soprano saxophone

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: As the sun set over the village of Emmaus, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to his friends.
All: Then their eyes were opened and they recognized that he had been walking, talking, and sitting with them all along.
One: Today, we gather around shared words for worship, hoping and trusting that we, too, might behold the risen Lord among us.
All: May our eyes be open to recognize Jesus in the midst of our grief, frustration, and hopelessness. Let us worship God!

*Please stand if you are able.

GATHERING HYMN #388

Come All You People UYAI MOSE

Come all you people, Come and praise your maker
Come all you people, Come and praise your maker
Come all you people, Come and praise your maker
Come now and worship the Lord.

Uyai mose, tinamate Mwari;
uyai mose, tinamate Mwari;
uyai mose, tinamate Mwari;
uyai mose zvino.

CALL TO CONFESSON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living Lord, by the power of your Spirit, you are present among us. Yet, like the first disciples, we fail to see you in our midst. We do not realize you are walking beside us, for we are preoccupied by stressful, overcrowded lives. We do not notice you in everyday experiences, for we are distracted by our own concerns. We do not recognize you on our streets or at our tables, for our expectations are too limited to imagine all the ways you dwell among us. Open our eyes and our hearts to perceive you in our midst, so that—seeing you clearly—we might follow you faithfully. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Luke 24:13-35 Joanne Kelhart

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

SERMON The Rev. Lindsey Altvater Clifton

"Recognizing Jesus"

WE RESPOND

*SERMON HYMN #132

Come, Great God of All the Ages ABBOT'S LEIGH

1 Come, great God of all the ages,
Make Your earthly mission known;
Speak through every deed and person,
Let Your way and will be shown.
Guide the church to true commitment,
Give direction now, we ask;
Fit us for the work of building,
Dedicate us to the task.

2 Come, Christ Jesus, flesh and spirit,
Sure foundation, cornerstone,
Help us form the church eternal,
May Your vision be our own.
Send a message to each follower,
Lead all people to Your way;
Urge us to strong faith and action
As we build the church today.

3 Come, great Spirit, in and with us,
Tune our ears to hear Your call;
Through the moving of Your presence.
Let redeeming love recall
Ministry in dedication,
Love embodied in our deeds;
Challenge us to do Your bidding,
See Your purpose, fill all needs.

4 Come, O come, in celebration,
Household of the one true God.
In commitment and rejoicing
Let us go where Christ has trod;
As we act in faith and reverence.
Let us, Lord, the future see;
Place us in the church triumphant, Now
and for eternity.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the Confession of 1967

In Jesus of Nazareth true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all. Jesus Christ is God with us. To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL FOR OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory "Fugue" from *Prelude and Fugue in B flat minor, BWV 867*

Johann Sebastian Bach/arr. D. Macbeth

Dr. Aaron Patterson, soprano saxophone

*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.

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.

*SENDING HYMN #276

Great is Thy Faithfulness FAITHFULNESS

1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever will be.

Refrain:
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
(Refrain)

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
(Refrain)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Rondo-Fanfare Jean-Joseph Mouret/Arr Thomas Murray

The flowers today were donated by Dr. Marilyn R. McDonald
in memory of David H. Humphrey and his son Mark

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