



Tenth Sunday After Pentecost Traditional Service August 1, 2021

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE "Fidelis" (Faithful) from *Four Extemporizations*

Percy Whitlock

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Trust in the Lord and do good;

People: commit your way to the Lord, trust in him, and he will act.

Leader: Our steps are made firm by the Lord, when he delights in our way;

People: though we stumble, we shall not fall, for the Lord holds us by the hand.

All: Let us worship God!

OPENING 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.

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)

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!

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)

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFSSION

PRAYER OF CONFESION

Gracious and Loving God, we know that Jesus promised us that whoever believes in him will have eternal life. Yet we still struggle to believe; we even struggle with what it means to believe. We define believing as agreeing with a list of particular ideas, or as a vague sense of your goodwill. Forgive us, Lord; help us to listen for you, trust in you, and follow you wherever you call us, so that our belief and our actions may be filled with the life that Christ promises.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE James 2:14-26

Betsy Simpson

Leader: The word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON

The Rev. J.C. Austin

"A Good Word: Believe"

WE RESPOND

HYMN

#399

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

DUNLAP'S CREEK

1 We walk by faith and not by sight;
No gracious words we hear
From Christ Who spoke as none e'er
spoke;
But we believe Him near.

2 We may not touch His hands and
side,
Nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise we rejoice,
And cry, "My Lord and God!"

3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
And may our faith abound
To call on You when You are near
And seek where You are found:

4 That, when our life of faith is done,
In realms of clearer light
We may behold You as You are,
With full and endless sight.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (the Nicene Creed, ecumenical version)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL FOR OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory "The Call" from *Five Mystic Songs*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Rebecca Erhardt, soprano

*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

WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise... As our Savior Christ has taught us, so now we pray:

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.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

Fred Pratt Green

CLOSING HYMN

#522

Lord, When I Came Into This Life

LAND OF REST

1 Lord, when I came into this life
You called me by my name;
Today I come, commit myself,
Responding to Your claim.

3 In all the tensions of my life,
Between my faith and doubt,
Let Your great Spirit give me hope,
Sustain me, lead me out.

2 Within the circle of the faith
As member of Your cast,
I take my place with all the saints
Of future, present, past.

4 So, help me in my unbelief
And let my life be true:
Feet firmly planted on the earth,
My sights set high on You.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Fantasia in G, BWV 572

J.S. Bach

If you would like to make a secure online donation to FPCB, you can visit fpc-bethlehem.org/donate, or use this QR code to go directly to that page (on your mobile phone, open the camera and point it at the QR code – it will take you to this website page).



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

Your attendance at church events constitutes permission to use your image (photos and video) in church communications. Questions about our policy:

info@fpc-bethlehem.org