FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Traditional Service
All Saints' Sunday

November 5, 2023

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE "The Infinite Shining Heavens", from *Songs of Travel (1904)* Ralph Vaughan Williams
Bryan McClary, Baritone

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
Leader: One thing I asked of the Lord, that I will seek after;
People: to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN #526

For All the Saints — SINE NOMINE

1 For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

3 O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

4 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Please stand if you are able.

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, you set your table with overflowing grace and goodness; you prepare a place for all people and invite them to sit and eat their fill of your rich food. But we confess there are times when we wish your grace was not quite so abundant, when we find ourselves sitting at your table next to someone with whom we would rather not share a table or meal. Help us to recognize and honor your image in every person, so we may truly receive and share your grace in all that we say and do.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 25:6-9 Linda Filipovits

Leader: The word of the Lord;

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Rev. J.C. Austin

"Divine Barbecue"

WE RESPOND

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

*SERMON HYMN #366

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me ST. CATHERINE

1 Jesus, Thy boundless love to me
No thought can reach, no tongue declare;
O knit my thankful heart to Thee,
And reign without a rival there!
Thine wholly, Thine alone, I'd live,
Myself to Thee, entirely give.

2 O, grant that nothing in my soul
May dwell, but Thy pure love alone;
O may Thy love possess me whole,
My joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove;
May every act, word, thought be love.

3 O love, how gracious is thy way!
All fear before thy presence flies;
Care, anguish, sorrow melt away,
Where'er Thy healing beams arise.
O Jesus, nothing may I see,
Nothing desire or seek, but Thee.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from "A Brief Statement of Faith")

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

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.

OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory *Nunc Dimitis* in G Major, Op. 81 Charles V. Stanford

Chancel Choir with Bryan McClary, Baritone soloist

Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart
in peace
According to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation
Which thou hast prepared before the face
of all people.

To be a light to lighten the gentiles
And to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
And to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever
shall be.
World without end.
Amen

*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.

*Prayer of Dedication

WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 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

Communion Music "Communio", from *8 Pieces for Organ* Theodore Dubois

*SENDING HYMN #504

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether UNION SEMINARY

1 Draw us in the Spirit's tether,
for when humbly in your name
two or three are met together,
you are in the midst of them.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Touch we now your garment's hem.

2 As disciples used to gather
in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the giver
break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
so now bind our friendship up.

3 All our meals and all our living
make as sacraments of you,
that by caring, helping, giving,
we may be disciples true.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
We will serve with faith anew.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Carillon Leo Sowerby