FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Summer Worship
The Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

June 23, 2024

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE He Reigns — Peter Furler/Steve Taylor
Contemporary Ensemble

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN — #489
Open Now the 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 blessèd 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.

EMBODIED CONFESSON

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Please stand if you are able.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

We Are One in the Spirit — THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity, may one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, By our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

WE LISTEN

SCRIPTURE Matthew 5:1-2, 13-16 — Judy Smullen

Leader: The word of the Lord;

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON — The Rev. J.C. Austin

"The Great Ends of the Church 6:
The Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World"

WE RESPOND

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

*SERMON HYMN — #462

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies — RATISBON

1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart appear.

2 Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by Thee;
Joyless is the day's return
Till Thy mercy's beams I see,
Till they inward light impart,
Cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

3 Visit then this soul of mine;
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, Radiancy divine;
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory King of Heaven arr. Dan Galbraith

Contemporary Ensemble

*Doxology #414

As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought FOREST GREEN

3 With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to You,
Not just to serve Your cause, but share Your love with neighbors too.
O God who gave Yourself to us in Jesus Christ Your Son,
Help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

*Prayer of Dedication

*SENDING HYMN #478

Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven LAUDA ANIMA

1 Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;
To His feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore His praises sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.

2 Praise Him for His grace and favor
To His people in distress;
Praise Him still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in His faithfulness.

3 Fatherlike He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet His mercy flows.

4 Angels, help us to adore Him:
Ye behold Him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,
Dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Psalm XIX Benedetto Marcello

Dr. Barbara Thomson, Guest Organist