FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

Summer Worship

July 31, 2022

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE 10,000 Reasons — Matt Redman

Contemporary Ensemble

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Because from the beginning God has been faithful,

All: we aim to serve God with lives of faithfulness.

One: Because God calls us and shapes us for community,

All: we bring our lives together in this church.

One: Because God's prophets stood up and spoke for justice,

All: we join our voices to witness for peace.

One: Because God lavishes grace and love upon us,

All: we gather to worship God!

*GATHERING HYMN — #469

Morning Has Broken — BUNESSAN

1 Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird Praise
for the singing, praise for the morning Praise
for them springing fresh from the world!

2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from Heaven
Like the first dewfall on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

3 Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning
Born of the one light, Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God's recreation of the new day!

*Please stand if you are able.

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We know that you are a God of abundance and flourishing, yet we are often a people of scarcity and status quo. You have showered us with reasons for praise, yet we have not always shared your gifts with the world. You have granted us opportunities for love and community, yet we have responded with indifference and isolation. You have given us chances to be transformed, yet we have fallen into old, selfish habits. Forgive us, O God, for all the ways we miss the mark. By your Spirit, remind us of the depth of your grace and move us to respond with faithfulness until every movement is an act of praise, every word a song of gratitude, and every breath a prayer.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Galatians 3:23-29 Phil Fair

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

SERMON The Rev. Lindsey Altvater Clifton

"Spirit of Unity"

WE RESPOND

*SERMON HYMN - SEE INSERT #300

We Are One in the Spirit (from *Glory to God)* THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Together) Inspired by the *Confession of 1967*

Jesus Christ is God with humankind. He is the eternal Son of God, who became human and lived among us to fulfill the work of reconciliation and show us how to be in community. Christ is still present with us by the power of the Holy Spirit to continue and complete that mission. This reconciling, community building work of the Triune God—Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer—is the foundation of our faith. Therefore, the church calls all people to be one with God and with one another as we seek to build the Beloved Community—a peaceable, just, flourishing place of belonging and home for all people—here and now.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

CALL FOR OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory Spirit of the Living God Jacob Sooter/Mia Fieldes

Contemporary Ensemble

Verse 1
Spirit of the living God
Spirit of the living God
We only want to hear Your voice
We're hanging on ev'ry word
Spirit of the living God
Spirit of the living God
We want to know You more and more
We're hanging on ev'ry wordInterlude
Come and speak to us O Lord

Verse 2
Spirit of the living God
Spirit of the living God
We're leaning in to all You are
Ev'rything else can wait
Spirit of the living God
Spirit of the living God
Come now and breathe upon our hearts
Come now and have Your way

Bridge
When You move You move all our fears
When You move You move us to tears
When You move You move all our fears
When You move You move us to tears

Chorus
'Cause when You speak and when You move
When You do what only You can do
It changes us
It changes what we see and what we seek
When You come in the room
When You do what only You can do
It changes us
It changes what we see and what we seek
You're changing ev'rything

Bridge
When You fall we fall on our knees
When You fall we fall at Your feet
And when You fall we fall on our knees
And when You fall we fall at Your feet yeah

Ending
Spirit of the living God
Spirit of the living God
We only want to hear Your voice
We're hanging on ev'ry word

*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.

*SENDING HYMN #398

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

1 There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know that it's the presence of the Lord.

Refrain
Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love;
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise
Without a doubt we know that we'll have been revived,
When we shall leave this place.

2 There are blessings you cannot receive,
'Till you know Him in His fullness and believe;
You're the one to profit when you say,
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way."
(Refrain)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Minuet Finale" from *Music for the Royal Fireworks* George Frederick Handel

arr. E. Power Biggs

Today's flowers are donated by Kathy Kahler
in loving memory of Bruce Porter Bell, Jr.

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