

# First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

## Ascension of the Lord Digital Traditional Service May 16, 2021



### *The Service for the Lord's Day*

#### WE GATHER

PRELUDE "Preludio", Op. 67 No. 1

Oreste Ravanello

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PASSING THE PEACE

OPENING HYMN

#150

Come Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

1 Come, Christians, join to sing  
Alleluia! Amen!

Loud praise to Christ our King;  
Alleluia! Amen!

Let all, with heart and voice,  
Before His throne rejoice;  
Praise is His gracious choice;  
Alleluia! Amen!

2 Come, lift your hearts on high;  
Alleluia! Amen!

Let praises fill the sky;  
Alleluia! Amen!

He is our guide and friend;  
To us He'll condescend;  
His love shall never end;  
Alleluia! Amen!

3 Praise yet our Christ again;  
Alleluia! Amen!

Life shall not end the strain;  
Alleluia! Amen!

On heaven's blissful shore  
His goodness we'll adore,  
Singing forevermore,  
"Alleluia! Amen!"

## *WE CONFESS*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, Jesus said that he came so that we might have life, and have it abundantly. But all too often, we resign ourselves to a life of faith defined by scarcity. We hesitate to speak of our faith, fearing the reactions or judgment of others. We are half-hearted in our service, preferring deeds that bring temporary comfort rather than true transformation. We focus on the resources that we do not have for ministry rather than those that we do. We lament a sense of your absence without considering that we may be looking for you in the wrong places. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to recognize and be true witnesses of all the things that you are doing to shower us in your boundless grace and love.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## *WE LISTEN*

SPECIAL MUSIC 2. "Idylle", from Suite de Trois Morceaux Benjamin Godard  
Carissa Ripley, Flute

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Luke 24:44-53 Judy Smullen  
Leader: The word of the Lord  
**People: Thanks be to God**

SERMON The Rev. J.C. Austin  
"Going Far to Come Near"

## *WE RESPOND*

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, Radiance divine;  
Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more Thyself display,  
Shining to the perfect day.

## 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.**

### CALL FOR OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory Give Me Jesus

Rebecca Erhardt, Soprano

Traditional Spiritual  
Arr. Harry T. Burleigh

\*Response - #592

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him, above ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

\*Prayer of Dedication

### CLOSING HYMN

#142

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

CORONATION

1 All hail the power of Jesus' Name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all!

Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all!

2 Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,  
Ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all!

3 Let every kindred, every tribe,  
On this terrestrial ball,  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all!

4 O that with yonder sacred throng  
We at His feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all!

## BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "The Heavens Declare"

Benedetto Marcello