FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Traditional Service
Reign of Christ Sunday

November 26, 2023

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Prelude on "Tallis Canon" setting Richard Purvis

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord
People: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation
Leader: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving
People: Let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN #146

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart VINEYARD HAVEN

1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high,
The cross of Christ your King.

Refrain:
Hosanna, hosanna!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing!

2 Yes, on through life's long path,
Still chanting as ye go;
From youth to age, by night and day,
In gladness and in woe. (**Refrain**)

3 At last the march shall end;
The wearied ones shall rest;
The pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. (**Refrain**)

*Please stand if you are able.

4 Then on, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high,
The cross of Christ your King. (Refrain)

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, you call us into the ministry of reconciliation and promise us the forgiveness of all our sins. We invite you into our hearts and ask that you grant us the courage to look intentionally at our words and actions to see how they have been hurtful to our neighbors. We acknowledge that we have fallen short of your call to be the body of Christ in the world. Forgive us, grant us to wake anew each day washed in your love and strengthen us to be your hands and feet in our world so that all may know your love and forgiveness.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Matthew 25:31-46 Steve Simmons

Leader: The word of the Lord;

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Rev. Suzanne Trump

"Where's Your Bar?"

WE RESPOND

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

*SERMON 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!"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from *The Confession of 1967*)

In Jesus Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself. Jesus Christ is God with humanity. He is the eternal Son of the Father, who became human and lived among us to fulfill the work of reconciliation. He is present in the church by the power of the Holy Spirit to continue and complete his mission. This work of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is the foundation of all confessional statements about God, humanity, and the world. Therefore, the church calls all people to be reconciled to God and to one another.

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 The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune setting Ralph Vaughan Williams

Chancel Choir

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with fear, His praise forth tell;
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;
Without our aid He did us make;
We are His folk, He doth us feed,
And for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise;
Approach with joy His courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless His Name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good;
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
The God Whom Heaven and earth adore,
From men and from the angel host
Be praise and glory evermore.

*Doxology #435

We All Are One in Mission (Verse 3) ES FLOG EIN KLEINS

3 Now let us be united
And let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel
For God's redeeming word.
We all are one in mission,
We all are one in call,
Our varied gifts united
By Christ, the Lord of all.

*Prayer of Dedication

*SENDING HYMN #151

Crown Him with Many Crowns DIADEMATA

1 Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

2 Crown Him the Lord of love;
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified:
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye
At mysteries so bright.

3 Crown Him the Lord of peace;
Whose power a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
Absorbed in prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end;
And round His piercèd feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.

4 Crown Him the Lord of years,
The Potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For Thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail
Throughout eternity.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "March of the Priests" from *Athalie*, Op. 74 F. Mendelssohn/arr. E. Duncan

Flowers are from Wendy and Dan Magocs, in memory of their brothers,
David and Raymond Dennison, and Frederick Magocs