

# First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

## Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

### Digital Traditional Service

September 13, 2020



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

#### WE GATHER

PRELUDE 1. "Romance" from Preludes and Voluntaries Set 2 Eric H. Thiman

*All of today's organ music comes from a collection by the British organist and composer, Eric H. Thiman. Thiman (pronounced "Tea-man") was born in Ashford, Kent, England. Largely self-taught prior to his university training, he was awarded a fellow of the Royal College of Organists (FRCO) in 1921, and a doctor of music (DMus) in 1928. From 1930 he was Professor of Harmony at the Royal Academy of Music and later, from 1956 to 1962, was Dean of the Faculty of Music at the University of London.*

#### CALL TO WORSHIP AND PASSING THE PEACE

#### OPENING HYMN

#435

We All Are One In Mission

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS

Lauren Curnow Madigan, Mezzo-soprano

1 We all are one in mission,  
We all are one in call,  
Our varied gifts united  
By Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single, great commission  
Compels us from above  
To plan and work together  
That all may know Christ's love.

2 We all are called for service  
To witness in God's name;  
Our ministries are different,  
Our purpose is the same:

To touch the lives of others  
By God's surprising grace  
So every folk and nation  
May feel God's warm embrace.

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.

### *WE CONFESS*

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious and Loving God, we know that Christ commanded us to love one another just as he loves us; to love our neighbor as ourselves; and to love even our enemies. But while loving our neighbors isn't always easy, loving our enemies is very hard. Condemning and rejecting our enemies often feels right, and sometimes even feels good. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to imitate Christ's refusal to choose between showing his love or maintaining his conscience when dealing with his enemies, so we can truly be ambassadors for your kingdom in all its justice, truth, mercy, and peace.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### *WE LISTEN*

#### SPECIAL MUSIC

5. "Pavanesque" from Preludes and Voluntaries Set 2  
(Solo organ piece, no lyrics)

Eric H. Thiman

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE 2 Corinthians 9:1-15

Leader: The word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

#### SERMON

The Rev. J.C. Austin

"Keeping Our Enemies Close"

## *WE RESPOND*

HYMN

#380

O Christ, the Healer

ERHALT, UNS HERR

Rebecca Erhardt, soprano

1 O Christ, the healer, we have come  
To pray for health, to plead for friends.  
How can we fail to be restored,  
When reached by love that never ends?

2 From every ailment flesh endures  
Our bodies clamor to be freed;  
Yet in our hearts we would confess  
That wholeness is our deepest need.

3 How strong, O Lord, are our desires,  
How weak our knowledge of ourselves!  
Release in us those healing truths  
Unconscious pride resists or shelves.

4 In conflicts that destroy our health  
We recognize the world's disease;  
Our common life declares our ills:  
Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?

5 Grant that we all, made one in faith,  
In Your community may find  
The wholeness that, enriching us,  
Shall reach the whole of humankind.

## 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 3. "Tranquillo" from Preludes and Voluntaries Set 2 Eric H. Thiman

\*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

#282

If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DER LIEBEN GOTT

Rebecca Ripley, soprano

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee,  
With hopeful heart through all thy ways,  
God will give strength, whate'er betide thee,  
And bear thee through the evil days.  
Who trusts in God's unchanging love  
Builds on the rock that nought can move.

2 Only be still, and wait God's leisure  
In cheerful hope, with heart content  
To take whate'er thy Keeper's pleasure  
And all-discerning love hath sent;  
No doubt our inmost wants are clear  
To One who holds us always dear.

3 Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways,  
But do thine own part faithfully;  
Trust the rich promises of grace,  
So shall they be fulfilled in thee.  
God never yet forsook at need  
The soul secured by trust indeed.

## BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE 6. "Alla Marcia" from Preludes and Voluntaries Set 2 Eric H. Thiman