



# INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

the old stone church of independence

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## FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 25, 2023 / Proper 7

### THE HOLY GHOST



*The Holy Ghost: A Spirited Comic* by John Hendrix

C.J. Briggs, Music Director  
Julie Lehmann, Church Secretary

Nancy Bair, Liturgist  
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

*It is the heart that is not yet sure of its God that is afraid to laugh in his presence.*

~ George McDonald

~ **GATHERING** ~

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** (*Proverbs 17:22*)

A broken spirit dries the bones;  
**while a joyful heart brings healing.**

**PRELUDE**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (*from Psalm 126*)

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
we were like those who dream.

**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**

then it was said among the nations,

“The Lord has done great things for them.”

**The Lord has done great things for us,  
and we rejoiced.**

May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

**Those who go out weeping, shall come home with shouts of joy.**

Come, let us worship God.

**\*HYMN**

HERE IN THIS PLACE

GTG #401

by Marty Haugen

GATHER US IN

**CHILDREN OF GOD**

**POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS**

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**You send us, God of the Great Commission, but we hedge and  
hesitate. Forgive our fear and our excuses. We are witnesses of your  
grace and glory but allow others to silence our praise. We imprison  
ourselves with doubt and shame and fail to shine your light for all to  
see. Forgive our fears. Free our testimony. Help us be your faithful  
disciples. Amen. [*Silent Confession.*]**

**\*RESPONSE**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

GTG #551

American folk melody

LAND OF REST

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thank be to God. Amen.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**INSTRUMENTAL**

**MINUTE FOR SAFETY**

**~ THE WORD ~**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**GOSPEL LESSON**

MATTHEW 10:5-14

(NRSV)

**TORAH READING**

GENESIS 17-18

(Select Verses)

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

LIGHT ME UP

by C.J. Briggs

**SERMON**

SARAH LAUGHED

**~ RESPONDING TO THE WORD ~**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(from the Confession at Belhar)*

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that the unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways; in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another. Amen.

**\*INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**\*RESPONSE**

DOXOLOGY

GTG #606

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**~ SENDING ~**

**\*HYMN**

WE WILL GO OUT WITH JOY

GTG #539

by Andrew Donaldson and Hilary Seraph Donaldson

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*SENDING**

GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN

GTG #541

by Jeremiah Eames Rankin (RANDOLPH)

*Verse 1*

**POSTLUDE**



NEXT WEEK: ABRAHAM MOURNED

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Pieces of today's liturgy are from: *Book of Common Worship* (PCUSA); *Call to Worship, Lectionary Aids*; *Presbyterian Outlook*, Teri Ott.