

Sow Good News

"Faith comes by listening." (Romans 10:17)



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN
THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 8, 2023 (Proper 22)



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

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

Have we heard the sound that comes from above? We certainly cannot stop our machines. Nor should we try. But we can pay attention to the sound that filters through our earthly noise. For the air is full of promises, and we would lose everything if we failed to hear them.

~ Helmut Thielicke (trans. H. George Anderson)

~ GATHERING ~

We are called to worship with the church bells.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(1 Samuel 3:10-11)*

See I am about to do something new
that will make both ears of anyone who hears tingle.

Speak Lord, for your servant is listening.

*GATHERING

LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING
Kenyan (NENO LAKE MUNGU)

GTG #456
Verse 1

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Psalm 29)*

Glory to you, mighty God,
ruler of heaven and earth.

To your thundering word,
giant trees bend and cattle go wild.

To your flaming voice,
great nations yield and humble ones live in peace.

Bless us today, majestic God,
with the good things of the earth.

Loosen us, we pray,
to bend to your word and to go wild for peace.

Come, let us worship God!

*HYMN

LORD, SPEAK TO ME THAT I MAY SPEAK
by Frances Ridley Havergal

GTG #722
CANONBURY

CHILDREN OF GOD.

POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

LITANY OF SENDING

All: May God be with you there.

Kids: May God be with you here.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that our confidence is often misplaced. We put our confidence in our abilities rather than in your love. We put our confidence in our belongings rather than in your generosity. We put our confidence in ourselves rather than in you. Forgive us for our misgivings. Redirect us according to your Spirit and your will. Help us to follow your ways and find our freedom in your heavenly calling. Open us to new levels of trust and joy as we press on towards your goal. Amen. [*Silent Confession*]

*RESPONSE

LORD, HAVE MERCY
American folk melody

GTG #551
LAND OF REST

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Christ we are a new creation,
we are made whole and we are called beloved. **Thanks be to God**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE (*Isaiah 52:7*)

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

MINUTE FOR SOWING

~ *LISTENING TO THE WORD* ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON

LUKE 9:51-56

(NRSV)

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.
For faith comes by listening.

WORD

O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED
by John Ernest Bode

GTG #725

NYLAND

THE CALL OF SAMUEL

1 SAMUEL 3

(*Select Verses*)

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.
For faith comes by listening.

SERMON

DISCERNING GOD'S CALL

~ **RESPONDING TO THE WORD** ~

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from The Second Helvetic Confession, 5.125*)

WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

The Church is an assembly of the faithful called or gathered out of the world; a communion, I say, of all saints, namely, of those who truly know and rightly worship and serve the true God in Christ the Savior, by the Word and Holy Spirit, and who by faith are partakers of all benefits which are freely offered through Christ. Amen.

***INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

***RESPONSE**

DOXOLOGY

GTG #606

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ **GOING FORTH** ~

***HYMN**

I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY

GTG #69

by Daniel L. Schutte

HERE I AM (Schutte)

***BENEDICTION**

How are we to proclaim unless we are sent:

How beautiful are the feet of those who bring Good News!

POSTLUDE

Know that you are loved by God and go forth to sow the Good News of God's love and peace.

NEXT WEEK: THE CALL OF ESTHER

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

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