

# Sow Good News

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



**INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN**  
THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

*October 15, 2023 (Proper 23)*



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

Evening Circle, Liturgists  
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

*I alone cannot change the world,  
but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.*

~ Mother Theresa

~ **GATHERING** ~

**MUSIC**      MENDELSSOHN ORGAN SONATA NO. 1 IN F MINOR      OP. 65  
I. ALLEGRO

**PRELUDE**      II. ADAGIO

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** (*Esther 4:14 & Romans 10:17*)

Who knows? Perhaps you have come for just such a time as this.  
**For faith comes by listening.**

**\*GATHERING**      LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING      GTG #456  
Kenyan (NENO LAKE MUNGU)      *Refrain x2*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (*based on Psalm 10:12*)

God of justice,  
**hear our prayer and rise up.**

Remember the brokenhearted,  
**and provide them strength.**

Listen to the orphans of the world  
**and answer their cries.**

God of the troubled,  
**hear our prayer and rise up.**

Remember the oppressed  
**and provide deliverance.**

Listen to those filled with grief  
**and offer comfort.**

God of justice,  
**let our prayers and your hand  
make us bold enough to rise up and follow you.**

Come, let us worship God!

**\*HYMN**      LORD, YOU GIVE THE GREAT COMMISSION      GTG #298  
by Jeffery W. Rowthorn      ABBOT'S LEIGH

**CHILDREN OF GOD.**

## POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

**All:** May God be with you there. **Kids:** May God be with you here.

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(from Love Stories of the Bible Speak: Samson and Delilah)*

God of heartbreak, forgive us for the times when we have betrayed Your trust, and for the times when we have wounded others. Where we have been prideful and selfish, may our hearts humbly return to You with repentance and obedience. If trust has been damaged in our relationships, grant us grace to commit to others with renewed hope, for You are the God of restoration and new beginnings. Amen.

*[Silent Confession]*

### \*RESPONSE

LORD, HAVE MERCY  
American folk melody

GTG #551  
LAND OF REST

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(from LSBS: God's Unconditional Love For Us)*

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **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

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

## ~ LISTENING TO THE WORD ~

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION *(from Love Stories of the Bible Speak: Adam and Eve)*

### GOSPEL LESSON

LUKE 10:1-9

(NRSV)

### WORD

O SING A NEW SONG TO THE LORD  
From *The New Metrical Version of the Psalms*

GTG #304  
GONFALON ROYAL

### THE CALL OF ESTHER

ESTHER 4

(NRSV)

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

### SERMON

FOR JUST SUCH A TIME AS THIS

~ **RESPONDING TO THE WORD** ~

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

Q: What is the Church?

**A: 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** (*adapted Love Stories of the Bible Speak: Ruth and Boaz*)

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** (*adapted Love Stories of the Bible Speak, multiple chapters*)

~ **GOING FORTH** ~

**BLESSING OF THE KNITTING**

**\*HYMN**

TAKE UP YOUR CROSS, THE SAVIOR SAID

GTG #718

by Charles William Everest

BOURBON

**\*BENEDICTION** (*adapted from Love Stories of the Bible Speak, David and Abigail*)

How are we to proclaim unless we are sent:

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

**POSTLUDE**

IV. ALLEGRO ASSAI VIVACE

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

*NEXT WEEK: CALL STORIES – CORNELIUS*

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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. *Together We Pray*, J. Bradley Wigger

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