

Sow Good News

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



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN
THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 22, 2023 (Proper 24)



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

Karen Shallcross, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

It is impossible to be truly converted to God without being converted to our neighbor.

~ John R.W. Stott

~ **GATHERING** ~

GATHERING MUSIC

PRELUDE IF THOU BUT TRUST IN GOD TO GUIDE THEE (GTG#816)
arr. J.S. Bach (BMV 690-691) NEUMARK

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Acts 10:33 & Romans 10:17*)

So now all of us are here in the presence of God to listen.
For faith comes by listening.

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*based on Psalm 47*)

Take your throne, majestic God,
and let the world praise you.

Let the nations clap,
let the people sing;
let every voice shout for joy.

Take your throne, Most High,
take your chair and sit.

Sit with us, we pray,
dwelt with your people—
right here, right now.

Be at home.

Come, let us worship God!

***HYMN** IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST GTG #318
by John Oxenham ST. PETER

CHILDREN OF GOD

POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

All: May God be with you there.

Kids: May God be with you here.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of justice and truth, you ask us to give to you the things that are yours. If we are honest, we know we hold so much back. We have promised you our obedience, but we often fulfill our own desires first. We have promised you our worship, but we give our attention to idols instead. We have promised to do your work in the world, but we put it last on the list of priorities. Have mercy on us and forgive us. Increase our generosity that we might give freely, grateful for all of the gifts you have given us. Amen. [*Silent Confession*]

*RESPONSE

LORD, HAVE MERCY
American folk melody

GTG #551
LAND OF REST

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

~ *LISTENING TO THE WORD* ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 6:25-34

(NRSV)

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

WORD

WHY SHOULD I FEEL DISCOURAGED

GTG #661

by Civilla Durfee Martin

SPARROW

THE CALL OF CORNELIUS

ACTS 10

(*Select Verses*)

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

SERMON

COMMUNAL CONVERSATIONS

~ **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**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ **GOING FORTH** ~

***HYMN**

SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER

GTG #375

by Robert Lowry

***BENEDICTION**

How are we to proclaim unless we are sent:

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

POSTLUDE IF THOU BUT TRUST IN GOD TO GUIDE THEE (GTG#816)

arr. J.S. Bach (BMV 642) WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

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

Next Week: Reformation Sunday Potluck
Bring a dish to share, or just come and enjoy

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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