

Sow Good News

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



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN
THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

HARVEST IN-GATHERING

Hunger and Homelessness Sunday ~ November 12, 2023



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

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

Vibrant, fruitful, growing congregations practice extravagant generosity. They thrive with the joy of abundance rather than starve with a fear of scarcity. ~ Robert Schnase

~ *GATHERING* ~

GATHERING MUSIC

PRELUDE

PRELUDE IN E MINOR

BMV 533

J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Revelation 19:1,3*)

I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude saying:

Hallelujah!

Once more they said:

Hallelujah!

*GATHERING

LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING

GTG #456

Kenyan (NENO LAKE MUNGU)

Refrain x2

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*based on Psalm 104*)

Bless the Lord, O my soul. Hallelujah!

You make springs gush forth in the valleys and flow between the hills,
giving drink to every wild animal, all quench their thirst.

By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation;
they sing praises from among the branches.

From your heights you water the mountains with abundance;
the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

You cause the grass to grow for the cattle,
you bring forth food from the earth,
and bread to strengthen the human heart.

O Lord, how manifold are your works!

when you give, we gather up;

when you open your hand we are filled with good things.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever!

Bless the Lord, O my soul. Hallelujah!

Come, let us worship God!

*HYMN

YOU THIRSTY ONES, COME

GTG #78

by Andrew Donaldson

HEAVEN'S RAIN

CHILDREN OF GOD

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

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(from Liturgies from Below)*

God of life, you invite us to ask for living water, water that satisfies our thirst. We confess that we seek to quench our thirst in other ways. We drink deeply, choosing these sweet waters that turn to fear in our bellies. We confess that rather than turning to you, we try to force out fear by casting out others. Lord help us to drink deeply of your perfect love that casts out fear. Strengthen us to practice love to ourselves, those close to us, and those we overlook. Fill us with living water until it overflows. Amen. *[Silent Confession]*

*RESPONSE

LORD, HAVE MERCY
American folk melody

GTG #551
LAND OF REST

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

I know the Messiah has come! **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

PROPERTY AND FINANCE

~ LISTENING TO THE WORD ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE READING

REVELATION 19

[See Insert]

GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 4

(Select Verses)

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

WORD

BREAD OF HEAVEN, ON THEE WE FEED
by Josiah Conder

GTG #496
ARFON

SERMON

THE HALLELUJAH BANQUET

~ **RESPONDING TO THE WORD** ~

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from A Brief Statement of Faith*)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

***INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

***RESPONSE**

DOXOLOGY

GTG #606

***DEDICATION OF OUR HARVEST IN-GATHERING** (*from Neighborhood Church*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ **GOING FORTH** ~

***HYMN**

YOU ARE MY STRENGTH WHEN I AM WEAK

GTG #519

by Dennis Jernigan

***BENEDICTION**

How are we to proclaim unless we are sent:

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

POSTLUDE

FUGUE IN E MINOR

BMV 533

J.S. Bach

Next Week: Dedication Sunday

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

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THE REVELATION TO JOHN 19:1-10

Select Verses, The Message

After this, I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying,

Hallelujah!

**Salvation and glory and power to our God,
whose justice reigns on the earth.**

Once more they sang:

Hallelujah!

The smoke goes up forever and ever and ever.

The Twenty-four Elders and the Four Animals fell to their knees and worshiped God on the Throne, praising,

Amen! Yes! Hallelujah!

From the Throne came a shout:

Praise our God, all you servants,

All you who revere God, small and great!

Then I heard the sound of massed choirs, the sound of mighty rapids, the sound of strong thunder:

Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God, the Almighty reigns

Let us celebrate, let us rejoice,

let us give God the glory!

The Marriage of the Lamb has come.

The Angel said to me, "Write this:

'Blessed are those invited to the Wedding Supper of the Lamb.'"

He added,

"These are the true words of God!"

I fell at his feet to worship him, but he wouldn't let me. "Don't do that," he said. "I'm a servant just like you, and like your brothers and sisters who hold to the witness of Jesus. Worship God! For the witness of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."