

Sow Good News

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



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 21, 2024



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

Paula Trill, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

For the Hebrew, to know the time was not a matter of knowing the date, it was a matter of knowing what kind of time it might be. ...Time was the quality or mood of events.

~ Albert Nolan

~ *GATHERING* ~

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(from Ecclesiastes 3)*

For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven.

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(from Psalm 62)*

Oh, I must find rest in God alone,
because my hope comes from the Lord!
My deliverance and glory depend on God.
God is my strong rock. My refuge is in God.
All you people: Trust in the Lord in all times!
Pour out your hearts before the Lord! God is our refuge!
God has spoken one thing—make it two things—
that I myself have heard: that strength belongs to God,
and faithful love comes from you, my Lord.
Come, let us worship God.

***HYMN** GOD IS CALLING THROUGH THE WHISPER GTG #410
by Mary Louise Bringle W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

CHILDREN OF GOD HERE AND NOW by Julia Denos

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

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

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, you call, but we seldom hear. You beckon, yet we turn away. Sin keeps us from responding to you, thwarting even our best efforts. Forgive our lack of attention to things that matter and restore our sense of your priorities. Focus us on your call to worship and service as we seek to follow after Jesus Christ. Amen. *[Silent Confession]*

***RESPONSE**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

GTG #576

by Swee Hong Lim

SINGAPURA

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In the name of 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

TRANSFORMING PARTNERSHIP

Neighborhood Church Book Studies:
Tuesday, January 23: 10am and 7pm

~ ***LISTENING TO THE WORD*** ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW BIBLE

JONAH 3:1-5, 10

NRSV

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

For faith comes by listening.

WORD

TODAY WE ALL ARE CALLED TO BE DISCIPLES

GTG #757

by H. Kenn Charmichael

GOSPEL LESSON

JESUS CALLS THE FIRST DISCIPLES

MARK 1:14-20

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

For faith comes by listening.

SERMON

NOW IS THE TIME

~ ***RESPONDING TO THE WORD*** ~

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from a Brief Statement of Faith, PCUSA*)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

(continued on next page)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(continued)*

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

***RESPONSE**

DOXOLOGY

GTG #606

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ GOING FORTH ~

***HYMN**

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN EVERY AGE

GTG #320

by Fred Pratt Green

WAREHAM

***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 &
Go forth to sow the Good News of God's love and peace.*

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

Cover Image: *Bell Tower Clock*, Church of St. James Son of Zebedee, Germany

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