





THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE



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

Sue Saunders, Liturgist Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

"You must do something to make the world more beautiful." ~ from Miss Rumphius by Barbara Cooney

~ GATHERING ~

GATHERING

SHINRIN-YOKU (FOREST BATHING)

bit.ly/FMForestBath

In every walk with nature, one receives far more than one seeks.

~ John Muir

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (2 Corinthians 5)

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

See, everything has become new!

*GATHERING

LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING

GTG #456

alleluia

Kenyan (NENO LAKE MUNGU)

Refrain x2

*CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 104, from Together We Pray)

Bless the Holy One, O my soul.

Bless the Lord, in whom there is life.

As fresh springs well up from the earth,

cool rivers flow down from the mountains.

With every drink of water, we bless the Holy One

Bless the Lord, in whom there is life.

As plants and grasses grow to feed a hungry planet,

bread and drink make the heart glad to be alive.

With every meal, we bless the Holy One.

Bless the Lord, in whom there is life.

Come let us worship God.

*HYMN

BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL AND BEING!

GTG #34

by Fred R. Anderson

RUSTINGTON

CHILDREN OF GOD MY LORD AND MY GOD

JOHN 20:19-31

THE PEACE TABLE: A STORYBOOK BIBLE

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

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

*Prayer of Confession

Embodied God, you pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, imbuing us with the grace and patience that you have shown to us time and again. We experience your presence, but are quick to judge those who do not believe as we do. We look down on those who ask for proof, we scorn those who scoff at our faith. Forgive us and soften our hearts. Remind us of our own human doubts, that we might have compassion for all and freely share your grace. Amen. [Silent Confession]

*RESPONSE

CHRIST HAS DIED; CHRIST IS RISEN MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (Roberts)

GTG #557

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Jesus Christ we are restored. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE (Isaiah 52:7)

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.



~ LISTENING TO THE WORD ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW BIBLE

GENESIS 2:4B-16

CEB

This is the good news, shone in our hearts to give light of the knowledge of the glory of God. We hold this treasure in jars of clay.

GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 6:25-29, 34

CEB

This is the good news, shone in our hearts to give light of the knowledge of the glory of God. We hold this treasure in jars of clay.

HYMN

WHY SHOULD I FEEL DISCOURAGED?

GTG #661

by Civilla Durfee

SPARROW

EASTER STORY

MISS RUMPHIUS

VIKING (PENGUIN)

Story and Pictures by Barbara Cooney

~ RESPONDING TO THE WORD ~

*Affirmation of Faith (A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments. We violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, God is faithful still.

*INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*ALLELUIA

HALLE, HALLELUJAH!

GTG #591

Caribbean melody; arr. by John L. Bell (Refrain)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ GOING FORTH ~

*HYMN

SEEK YE FIRST by Karen Lafferty

GTG #175

*BENEDICTION

How are we to proclaim unless we are sent:

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

POSTLUDE

Pieces of today's liturgy are from: Book of Common Worship (PCUSA)

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