



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

the old stone church of independence

6624 Public Sq - office@ipcusa.org - (216) 524-6307 - ipcusa.org

BLESSING OF THE BICYCLES

2nd Sunday after Pentecost ~ June 2, 2024



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

Sherry Rasmusen, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

You know, bicycling isn't just a matter of balance, it's a matter of faith. You can keep upright only by moving forward. You have to have your eyes on the goal not the ground.

~ Susan Vreeland

~ **GATHERING** ~

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Ezekiel 1:21*)

When they rose from the earth, the wheels rose along with them;
for the spirit of the living was in the wheels.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Psalm 121*)

I lift my eyes to the hills, from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

God will not let your foot be moved.

The One who keeps you will not slumber not sleep.

The Lord is your keeper;

The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

God shall preserve you from all trouble,
the Lord shall keep you safe.

**God shall watch over your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.**

Come, let us worship God.

***HYMN**

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

GTG #12

by Walter Chalmers Smith

ST. DENIO

POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen. [*Silent Confession.*]

***RESPONSE**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

GTG #551

American folk melody

LAND OF REST

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

~ THE WORD ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW BIBLE EZEKIEL 1:1, 15, 19-21, 28 (NRSV)

Follow along in your pew Bibles on page 723 of the Old Testament

GOSPEL LESSON JOHN 12:22-36 (NRSV)

Follow along in your pew Bibles on page 100 of the New Testament

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON THE LIGHT OF LIFE

~ RESPONDING TO THE WORD ~

HYMN EZEKIEL SAW THE WHEEL [SEE INSERT]

African American Spiritual

BLESSING OF THE BICYCLES

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from The Rule of Benedict, Prologue verses 8-14*)

Let us get up then, at long last, for the Scriptures rouse us when they say: It is high time for us to arise from sleep. Let us open our eyes to the light that comes from God, and our ears to the voice from heaven that every day calls out this charge: If you hear the voice of the Lord today, do not harden your hearts.

And again: You that have ears to hear, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches. And what does the Lord say? Come and listen to me, sons; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Run while you have the light of life, that the darkness of death may not overtake you. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

RESPONSE

DOXOLOGY

GTG #606

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...Therefore, we praise you, joining the song of all creation:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

~ *SENDING* ~

HYMN

ARISE, YOUR LIGHT IS COME!

GTG #744

by Ruth Duck

FESTAL SONG

BENEDICTION

*SENDING

GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN

GTG #541

by Jeremiah Eames Rankin (RANDOLPH)

Verse 1

POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK: WORSHIP @ELMWOOD PARK (10:30AM)

Call the office if you need directions.

6624 Public Square; Independence, Ohio 44131
ipcusa.org ~ (216) 524-6307 ~ office@ipcusa.org