



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

the old stone church of independence

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

FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY

July 28, 2024



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

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

*Where is the spiritual value in rowing? ...
The losing of self entirely to the cooperative effort of the crew as a whole.*

*~ George Yeoman Pocock
from *The Boys in the Boat**

~ GATHERING ~

The International Day of Friendship was proclaimed in 2011 by the UN General Assembly with the idea that friendship between peoples, countries, cultures and individuals can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities. ~ United Nations

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Matt. 28:20; 2 Tim. 2:9)*

Lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.

The word of God is not fettered.

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(from TOGETHER WE PRAY, based on Psalm 16)*

Therefore, my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.

To the One who secures our lives, we pray.

Hold us in your hand,
as we hold hands with one another.

**Move our hearts to love;
stir our souls to celebrate.**

For the hand that guides us on the way of life,
**and for the fullness of joy we know in your presence,
we are forever grateful.**

*HYMN

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS
by Joseph Scriven

GTG #465
CONVERSE

*POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you have commanded us to love you above all and to have no other gods. You have called us to love others as you love them. But we are personally and socially deformed by the love of idols. We have failed to follow your instruction to care for the poor, the orphan, the widow, the immigrant. Forgive us our sins and transform us by your Spirit that we might learn to love as you love and to live as people who have been baptized as your own children. Amen. *[Silent Confession.]*

***RESPONSE**

LORD, HAVE MERCY
American folk melody

GTG #551
LAND OF REST

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Let us remember our baptisms and trust in God's mercy to restore our right standing as God's own. **Thanks be to God!**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

SPREAD THE WORD

OUTREACH TEAM

~ *THE WORD* ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 28:16-20

Pew Bible p.32 (NT)

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

HEBREW BIBLE

II SAMUEL 18 (*Select Verses*)

Pew Bible p.280 (OT)

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

HYMN

FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT
by John Samuel Bewley Monsell

GTG #846
DUKE STREET

SERMON

LET ME RUN
(WITH THE GOOD NEWS)

~ *RESPONDING TO THE WORD* ~

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from the Theological Declaration of Barmen, 8.25-27*)

6. "Lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age." (Matt. 28:20.) "The word of God is not fettered." (II Tim. 2:9.)

With the church at Barmen and in every age, we confess the following evangelical truths:

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

The church's commission, upon which its freedom is founded, consists in delivering the message of the free grace of God to all people in Christ's stead, and therefore in the ministry of his own Word and work through sermon and Sacrament.

We reject the false doctrine, as though the church in human arrogance could place the Word and work of the Lord in the service of any arbitrarily chosen desires, purposes, and plans.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

RESPONSE

DOXOLOGY

GTG #606

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ ***SENDING*** ~

HYMN

GO TO THE WORLD!
by Sylvia G. Dunstan

GTG #295
SINE NOMINE

BENEDICTION

***SENDING**

GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN
by Jeremiah Eames Rankin (RANDOLPH)

GTG #541
Verse 1

POSTLUDE

Upcoming

August 18 – Blessing of the Backpacks

Sept 8 – Rally Day and Festival

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