

# Nurture Good News

*"For all of you share in God's grace." (Philippians 1:7)*



## INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN

THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

### EVANGELISM SUNDAY

*September 15, 2024*



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

Ryan Smith, Liturgist  
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

*If evangelism is simply a tool to bring more people into our churches,  
evangelism is not good news. ~ Ray Jones*

## ~ GATHERING TOGETHER ~

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(from Philippians 1:6-7)*

I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

**For all of us share in God's grace.**

### \*GATHERING

### CALLED AS PARTNERS

GTG #761

by Jane Parker Huber (NETTLETON)

Verse 1



Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice called to min-is-tries of grace,  
we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
e-gual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's chosen end.



May we learn the art of shar-ing side by side and friend with friend.

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Isaiah 52)*

For thus says the Lord our God,

**my people shall know that it is I who speak:**

How beautiful upon the hills are the feet of the messengers:

**who proclaim peace, who spread good news,**

**who preach love, who say: "Your God lives!"**

Listen! The sentries lift their voices: **Together we sing out for joy**

Depart! Depart, go out from here, **all those who carry the light of God.**

You shall not go out in haste,

**for the Holy One will go before those who bring good news.**

### \*HYMN

### BREAD OF LIFE FROM HEAVEN

GTG #497

by Susan R. Briehl

ARGENTINE SANTO

CHILDREN OF GOD            THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE

**POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS**

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

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(based on Matthew 13)*

**Master Gardener, we walk among weeds and wheat, oftentimes unaware of the difference between good and evil. Help us discern your will and your way. Guide our feet as we walk and work in the garden of your world. Nurture us in your good soil. May our lives contribute to your coming beloved community. May our toil support the growth of your harvest. Amen. [Silent Confession]**

**\*RESPONSE**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

GTG #579

Russian Orthodox Chant

KYRIE ELEISON (Orthodox)

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *(based on Philippians 1:6-7)*

Believe the good news: **in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE** *(Isaiah 52:7)*

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

**SPREAD THE WORD**

OUTREACH TEAM

**MINUTE FOR NURTURE**

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

**~ SHARING IN THE GOSPEL ~**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**GOSPEL LESSON**

MATTHEW 14:13-21

*Pew Bible p.15 (NT)*

**EPISTLE READING**

PHILIPPIANS 1:1-11

*Pew Bible p.185 (NT)*

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

**For all of us share in God's grace.**

**HYMN**

BREAK THOU THE BREAD OF LIFE

GTG #460

by Mary Ann Lathbury

BREAD OF LIFE

**SERMON**

SHARE IN GOD'S GRACE

REV. DAVID WIGGER

~ *TENDING THE GOOD NEWS* ~

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(from the Preface to A Brief Statement of Faith PCUSA)*

We are bound together by a common faith and a common task. The faith we confess unites us with the one, universal church. From the first, the Reformed churches have insisted that the renewal of the church must become visible in the transformation of human lives and societies. A sound confession, therefore, proves itself as it nurtures commitment to the church's mission, and as the confessing church itself becomes the body by which Christ continues the blessing of his earthly ministry.

**\*INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**\*RESPONSE**

DOXOLOGY  
by Thomas Ken

GTG #675 *(Verse 4)*  
TALLIS' CANON

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

~ *GOING FORTH TO NURTURE* ~

**\*HYMN**

I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY  
by Katherine Hankey

GTG #462  
HANKEY

**\*BENEDICTION** *(from Philippians 1:7, 9, MSG)*

So this is my prayer: **that our love may flourish more and more.**

**POSTLUDE**

*\*You are invited to rise in body or spirit, for the liturgy marked with asterisks.  
Congregation is invited to read the liturgy in bold.*

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