

Nurture Good News

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



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN

THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 11, 2025



Nada Montgomery, Guest Pianist
Nicolette Cindric, Church Secretary

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

So, this is my prayer: that your love will flourish and that you will not only love much but well.
~ Philippians 1:9 (MSG)

~ *GATHERING TOGETHER* ~

PRELUDE

GOD, GIVE US CHRISTIAN HOMES
B.B. McKinney

arr. Cindy Berry

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

*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.

Come, let us worship God.

*HYMN

BREAD OF LIFE FROM HEAVEN

GTG #497

by Susan R. Briehl

ARGENTINE SANTO

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

CHILDREN OF GOD

THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE

Screening: Sunday, May 18 – 9:30am

***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
American folk melody

GTG #551
LAND OF REST

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *(based on Psalm 30)*

Believe the Good News:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

SPREAD THE WORD

OUTREACH TEAM

~ SHARING IN THE GOSPEL ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 14:13-21

Pew Bible p.15 (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
by Mary Ann Lathbury

GTG #460
BREAD OF LIFE

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.

SERMON

THIS IS MY PRAYER

~ *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

ALLELUIA	HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH!	GTG #591
	Caribbean melody; arr. by John L. Bell	(Refrain)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ *GOING FORTH TO NURTURE* ~

*HYMN	I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY	GTG #462
	by Katherine Hankey	HANKEY

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

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

POSTLUDE	BE STILL MY SOUL	arr. Cindy Berry
	Jean Sibelius	

NEXT WEEK: CELEBRATION OF THE PROGRAM YEAR

INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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