

INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN

THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

Sunday, May 18, 2025



~ Robin Wall Kimmerer,
BRAIDING SWEETGRASS

CELEBRATION OF THE PROGRAM YEAR

**You are invited to rise in body or spirit, for the liturgy marked with asterisks.*

Congregation is invited to read the liturgy in bold.

Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor Nicolette Cindric, Church Secretary

~ GATHERING TOGETHER ~

GATHERING MUSIC

PRELUDE

THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE

Music by Isobel Waller-Bridge

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.

INTERLUDE

CLIMBING THE TREE

Isobel Waller-Bridge

THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE

***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 preach love,

who spread good news.

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**

LISTEN GOD IS CALLING

Kenyan

GTG #456

NENO LAKE MUNGU

POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS



CHILDREN OF GOD

THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE

by Charlie Mackesy

I hope this book encourages you,
perhaps, to live courageously with
more kindness for yourself and
for others. And to ask for help when
you need it - which is always
a brave thing to do.

INTERLUDE

HAVE SOME CAKE

Waller-Bridge

THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(based on Matthew 14)*

Lord of abundance and compassion, we confess that when we see the overwhelming needs of your beloved world, we want to turn away, seek our own security and retreat from the chaos all around us. Forgive us for failing to heed Jesus' command to provide for the crowds.

Forgive us for hoarding what we have instead of willingly offering it to you that it might be blessed, multiplied and used to sustain everyone. God of life, help us to tend our soil. Open us to share, enable us to nurture, so that your word will grow and bear good fruit in our lives and your world.

In your abounding, steadfast love, grant us mercy and make of us a merciful, gracious and faithful people. Amen.

[Silent Confession]

***RESPONSE**

LORD, HAVE MERCY
American folk melody

GTG #551
LAND OF REST

***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.

INSTRUMENTAL

DOING NOTHING WITH FRIENDS

Waller-Bridge

THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

MADE FOR THIS

Lifetree Kids

SPREAD THE WORD

OUTREACH TEAM

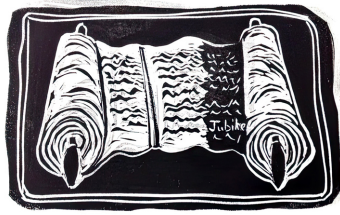
MINUTE FOR NURTURE

Habitat for Humanity Run/Walk/Mosey

Saturday, June 28 @ Edgewater Park

Register or donate here: fundraise.clehabitatwalk.org/independence/

~ *SHARING IN THE GOOD NEWS* ~



PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE READING **SHARE IN GOD'S GRACE**

PHILIPPIANS 1:1-11

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.
For all of us share in God's grace.

HYMN

CALLED AS PARTNERS IN CHRIST'S SERVICE
by Jane Parker Huber

GTG #761
NETTLETON



GOSPEL LESSON **FEEDING THE FIVE THOUSAND**

MATTHEW 14:13-21

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.
For all of us share in God's grace.

SERMON

NURTURE GOOD NEWS
SHARE IN GOD'S GRACE

REV. DAVID WIGGER

~ *TENDING TO THE GOSPEL* ~

INTERLUDE

NOTHING BEATS KINDNESS

Waller-Bridge

THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE

*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.

The Spirit of Truth gives new light to the churches when they are willing to become pupils together of the Word of God.

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

INTERLUDE

HOW FAST CAN YOU RUN

Waller-Bridge

THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE

TEACHER APPRECIATION

NANCY BAIR

SUE LENNY

LEE MCGOVERN

MELISSA BLAZEK

RYAN SMITH

SARAH MANSBERY

PAT CLARK

AMY WADSWORTH

JOE STERN

INTERLUDE

YOU ARE LOVED AND IMPORTANT

Waller-Bridge

THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ *GOING FORTH TO NURTURE* ~

***HYMN**

ALL WHO HUNGER, GATHER GLADLY

GTG#509

by Sylvia G. Dunstan

HOLY MANNA

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

For all of you share in God's grace with me. So this is my prayer:
that our love may be in abundance more and more.

POSTLUDE

HOME

Music by Isobel Waller-Bridge

THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE



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

Images by Cara B. Hochhalter

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