

Sixth Presbyterian Church

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Sunday, August 7, 2022

Large Print Bulletin



*The Sixth Presbyterian Church
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

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Sixth Presbyterian Church
Sunday, August 7, 2022, 10:00 am
Ninth Sunday of Pentecost

The Sanctuary is a sacred space. The choral chimes will ring three times to let you know it is time to quiet your hearts, minds, and voices to prepare for worship.

Prelude "Liesbster Jesu, wir sind hier, BWV 730" J.S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

Peace Candle

*Call to Worship Psalm 50

Leader: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth

All: Our God comes and does not keep silence

Leader: Before God is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around

**All: The heavens declare God's righteousness, for God's self is judge
LET US WORSHIP GOD!**

*Hymn "The God of Abraham Praise" 49

*Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Confession

All: Almighty and merciful God: we confess our sin. In our abundance we have been arrogant, overfed, and unconcerned. We have not helped the poor and needy. To evade your justice we have traded on the righteousness of others, rather than reforming ourselves and our city. Forgive us. Set our crookedness straight, while there is still time. We pray for mercy in the name of the One in whom righteousness dwells permanently, Jesus Christ.

Silent Confession

49 The God of Abraham Praise



1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove,
 2 Your spir - it still flows free, high surg - ing where it will.
 3 Your good - ly land we seek, with peace and plen - ty blest,
 4 You have e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul;



the An - cient of E - ter - nal Days, the God of love!
 In proph-et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
 a land of sa - cred lib - er - ty and Sab - bath rest.
 your love shall be our strength and stay, while a - ges roll.



The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed,
 Es - tab-lished is your law, and change-less it shall stand,
 There milk and hon - ey flow, and oil and wine a - bound,
 We praise you, liv - ing God! We praise your ho - ly name:



we bow be - fore your ho - ly name, for - ev - er blest.
 deep writ up - on the hu - man heart by your strong hand.
 and trees of life for - ev - er grow with mer - cy crowned.
 the first, the last, be - yond all thought, and still the same!



Shaped by its traditional Jewish tune, this selection of English stanzas conveys the essence of the *Yigdal*, a canticle based on a medieval Hebrew statement of faith about the nature of God and often used in synagogue worship, alternately chanted by cantor and congregation.

Em D Em Am Em D Em

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

Am D C D Em C Em

You are the Christ, giv-er of mer-cy!

Em D G Am Em D E

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

Assurance of Pardon

*Response

"Alleluia!"

A E D E A D E

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

A E Bm E A D E A

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Time for Children

Jenny Newman

*Exchange of Peace

Leader: Being mindful of the comfort levels and boundaries of those around us, let us pass the peace of Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination

All: Spirit of the living God, speak to your church through these ancient words, and illumine our minds with understanding. Amen.

*Gospel Reading

Luke 12:32-40 (pg. 91)

Hebrew Reading

Genesis 18:20-33 (pg. 17)

Sermon

"Down to One"

Ruling Elder Kate Davoli

*Affirmation of Faith

From Job's Confession

**All: I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth;
and after my skin has been thus destroyed,
then in my flesh, I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.
My heart faints within me!**

Pastoral Prayer

Leader: ... Lord, in your mercy,
All: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

2019 Vatican Update

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
do not let us fall into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.**

Offertory Sentence

Offertory

"Moderato con moto"

César Franck

*Doxology

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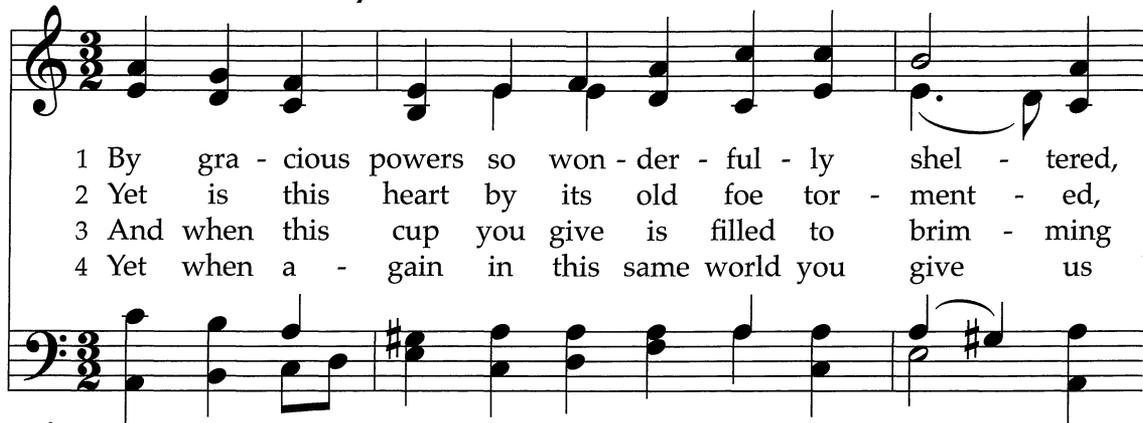
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures high and low,
Praise God, in Jesus fully known,
Creator, Word and Spirit One. Amen.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

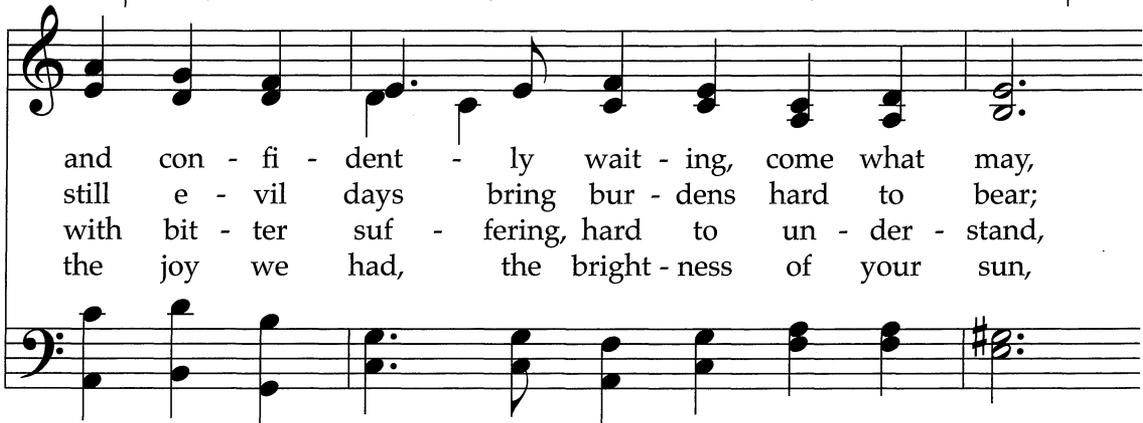
Leader: Let us give thanks, for God is good and God's Love is everlasting!
**All: Thanks be to God - whose love creates us!
Thanks be to God - whose mercy redeems us!
Thanks be to God - whose grace leads us into the future!**

By Gracious Powers

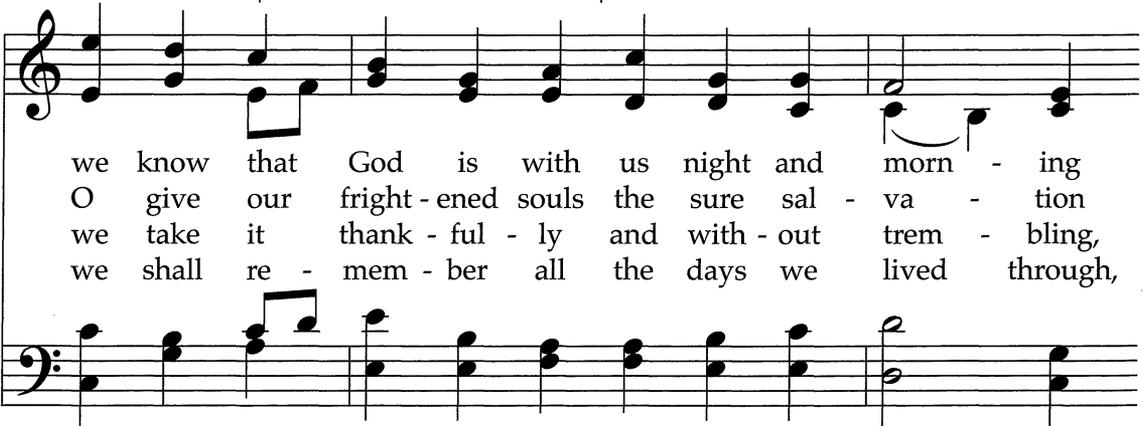
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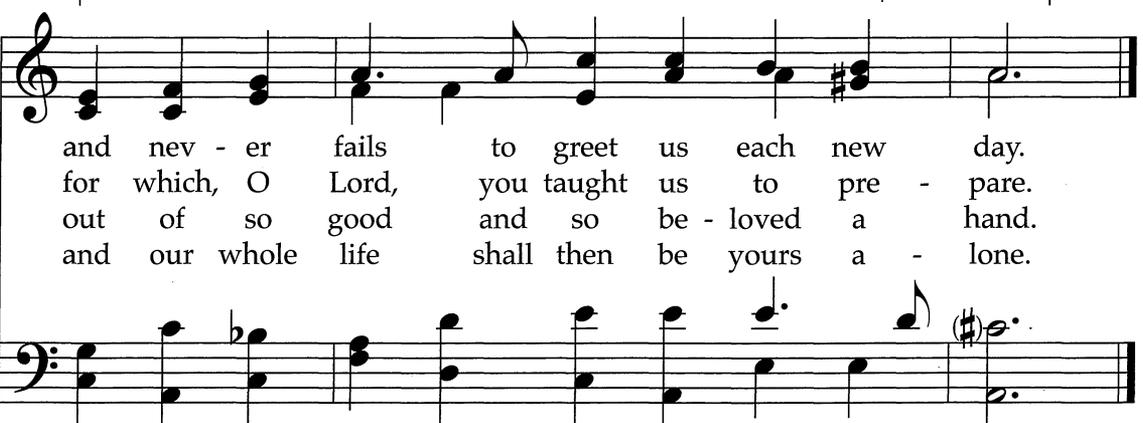
1 By gra - cious powers so won - der - ful - ly shel - tered,
 2 Yet is this heart by its old foe tor - ment - ed,
 3 And when this cup you give is filled to brim - ming
 4 Yet when a - gain in this same world you give us



and con - fi - dent - ly wait - ing, come what may,
 still e - vil days bring bur - dens hard to bear;
 with bit - ter suf - fering, hard to un - der - stand,
 the joy we had, the bright - ness of your sun,



we know that God is with us night and morn - ing
 O give our fright - ened souls the sure sal - va - tion
 we take it thank - ful - ly and with - out trem - bling,
 we shall re - mem - ber all the days we lived through,



and nev - er fails to greet us each new day.
 for which, O Lord, you taught us to pre - pare.
 out of so good and so be - loved a hand.
 and our whole life shall then be yours a - lone.

This text (made from the author's last poem) turns in the middle of stanza two, where broad affirmations yield to a prayer continuing through the rest of the hymn, a prayer that testifies to deep confidence. The minor tune helps to convey such tensions in the life of faith.

53 O God, Who Gives Us Life

1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,
 2 O God, who calls your peo-ple out to ven-ture and to dare,
 3 O God of cov-e - nant and law, re - vealed in cloud and flame,

who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:
 to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:
 your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.

de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.
 when we de-spair in wan - der-ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,
 Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,

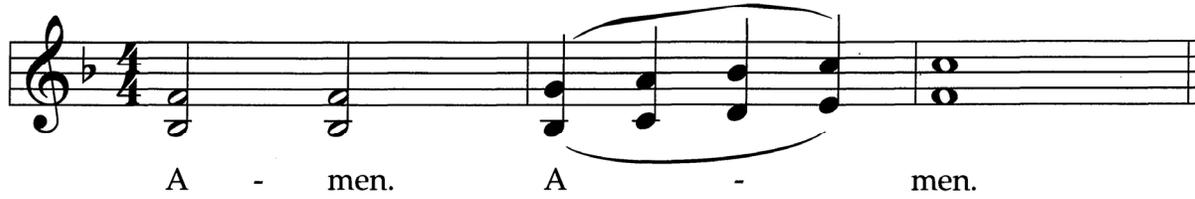
Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.
 re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.
 as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Christians often fail to appreciate how much we can learn about God from the Hebrew Scriptures. This text draws on a variety of passages that call attention to God's faithfulness toward the Chosen People and the promise of a new covenant written on the heart (Jeremiah 31:31-34).

*Benediction

*Amen

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Postlude

"Invention in C minor," *Opus 6*

Billy Joel

**Those who can may stand*

Upcoming Meetings and Events in (and around) the Church

Sunday, August 7

Worship (10 am, in-person and streaming)
NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

Monday, August 8

NA – Make a Change (7 pm)

Saturday, August 13

AA – Turning Point (5 pm)
NA – Squirrel Hill Group (7:30 pm)

Sunday, August 14

Worship (10 am, in-person and streaming)
Gun Safety (11 am, Parlor)
NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

Monday, August 15

NA – Make a Change (7 pm)

Tuesday, August 16

Earth Care Committee (7 pm, Zoom)

Wednesday, August 17

Deacons (7 pm, Zoom)

Thursday, August 18

Youth Group (6 pm, Sixth)

Saturday, August 20

Back to School Supplies for Teachers (3 pm,
Sixth front lawn)
AA – Turning Point (5 pm)
NA – Squirrel Hill Group (7:30 pm)

Sunday, August 21

Worship (10 am, in-person and streaming)
NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

Church Information and Announcements

We are an open and affirming community of faith in Jesus Christ. At home in an urban neighborhood of many faiths, we acknowledge that we are not alone on the path to understanding God. In worship, study, and fellowship, we celebrate our Presbyterian roots and find joy in our diversity. We strive for the grace to love one another as we seek a deeper understanding of life in the Spirit, working for justice and serving as stewards of God's wondrous creation.

Sixth is a More Light Church: A network of people seeking and affirming the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people of faith in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Inclusive Language: Words matter. Jesus Christ, the living Word, reached out to all people to bring them into God's fold. The kingdom of God includes all people; therefore our language should reflect the inclusivity and equality among the people of God. To that end, when possible, we seek to eliminate the inherent bias of the English language toward the masculine gender without altering passages that reflect the historical situation of ancient patriarchal culture, out of which the Bible originated.

Masks: Masks are required in the building while Allegheny County is in a "medium" or "high" CDC community risk designation; N95 or equivalent masks are preferred while in "high." Masks are welcome and recommended while in "low."

Assistive Hearing Devices: Assistive Hearing Devices – compatible only with hearing aids equipped with a T-Coil – are available at the Murray Avenue entrance

Large Print Bulletins: If you would like a large print bulletin, please see an usher for a paper copy or, if you would like to use your personal device, for guidance on how to find a digital copy on our website.

Prayer Cards: If you would like to have a person named and prayed for during the pastoral prayer, please fill out one of the white cards by the bulletins/ushers and give it to Vincent prior to the service.

Recording Notice: This service is being livestreamed and is available online in perpetuity

Seating: While distancing is not required, we do encourage people to leave space as attendance allows and to be mindful of people's continued need for distance

Church Nursery: Nursery care for infants and toddlers is available during the worship service. Our childcare staff are required to be vaccinated and masked.

Extended Session: Extended Session for children in preschool through third grade is held upstairs during worship following the Time for Children. Masks are required for all participants and our teachers and staff are vaccinated.

Water of Baptism: Each Sunday we pour water into our baptismal font to reaffirm the covenant that God makes through this community of faith

Candles for Peace, Justice and Personal Prayers: You are welcome to come forward to light a candle anytime during worship when words are not being spoken. Please maintain physical distance while waiting your turn.

Children and Candles: We love having children participate in the service, and we ask that—in order to maintain everyone's safety—you accompany your child while lighting candles.

Fellowship: We are not providing coffee or other refreshments after worship at this time

Today's Service: Ruling Elder Kate Davoli (guest preacher); Patty Halverson (liturgist); Kirk Howe (livestreaming); Mary Lang, Amy Whipple (ushers)

Bible Study: Pastor Vincent's weekly Bible study is on vacation and will resume in September

Pastoral Care: While Dr. Kolb is away on vacation (August 1-14), Rev. Rae Hodge, retired hospice chaplain, will be available should you or someone in the church need pastoral care. Please contact the church office, and Amy will put you in touch with Rev. Hodge.

Christian Education Committee Meeting: There will be a meeting for the Christian Education committee on Wednesday, August 17 at 6 pm at the church. We will be planning/discussing fall Sunday school, youth group, and other events. Anyone who would like to attend the meeting via Zoom should please email Jenny Newman for the link.

Fridays on the Lawn: Children, youth, and their families are invited to join us for Fridays on the Lawn from 6 to 8 pm on June 17 and August 26. Bring a blanket and gather with us on the front lawn. We will be providing some light food and beverages but feel free to bring your own picnic. There will be fellowship time and activities with an Earth Care theme. In case of rain, we will move inside following the church's masking policy.