

The Presque Isle Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
May 7th, 2023

Prelude

Barbara Merryman

Gathering Music

“You are Welcome Here”

Words of Welcome

Jennifer Gillis-White

Introit

“Come and Find the Quiet Center”

Call to Worship¹

One: Welcome home, people of God.

Many: We have come to find refuge in the shelter of God’s care.

One: Come and sit down. There is room for everyone in God’s house.

Many: We have come to be nourished by God’s word.

One: We are God’s own people, and are precious in God’s sight.

Many: We have come to give thanks for God’s faithful love. Amen!

Opening Prayer (unison)²

We are here today O God, our guide and guardian, remembering those who have nurtured us, protected us, and helped us grow. We give you thanks for homes that accept us and affirmed us as your precious children. In the shelter of your healing love, fortify us as living stones, and build us into spiritual home where all are welcome. In the name of Christ, our foundation and cornerstone, we pray, Amen.

Opening Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore You

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Holy God, we are not always able to love You with all our hearts and love our neighbor as ourselves. We continue to engage in conflicts even though we know that conflicts and battles only lead us to hatred. Please give us Your will and wisdom to overcome conflicts and live together in the way you want us to.

Assurance of Pardon

God hears our prayers. May our sins be cleansed, and we be remade as peacemakers. May God be with those who are in pain, suffering, and hardship right now. This is what the Lord says: “I have swept away your offense like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you.” Amen.

Two-Minute Message

Jennifer Gillis-White

Children’s Hymn

Jesus Loves Me

Scripture Reading

Acts 7:55-60

Common English Bible

But Stephen, enabled by the Holy Spirit, stared into heaven and saw God’s majesty and Jesus standing at God’s right side. He exclaimed, “Look! I can see heaven on display and the Son of Man, standing at God’s right side!” At this, the council members shrieked and covered their ears. Together, they charged at him, threw him out of the city, and began to stone him. The witnesses placed their coats in the care of a young man named Saul. As they battered him with stones, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, accept my life!” Falling to his knees, he shouted, “Lord, don’t hold this sin against them!” Then he died.

¹ Resource provided by Waldwick United Methodist Church, Waldwick NJ - “Home, Sweet Home” May 10, 2020

² Resource provided by Waldwick United Methodist Church, Waldwick NJ - “Home, Sweet Home” May 10, 2020

Proclamation

Meg Hegemann

Service of Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

Come to the Table

PIUCC Choir

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Responsive - On Screen Display)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our **Creator***, 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

**Please use whatever name is most familiar/comfortable when you pray to God.*

Closing Hymn

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Community News and Announcements

Benediction

Go forth into the world in peace. Serve the Lord God, love your neighbor, love the Lord God, and serve your neighbor. May Jesus Christ's grace, God's love, Holy Spirit's guidance be with you now and eternally. Amen.

Benediction Response

God Be With You

Go in peace

Music Citations

Permission to print/podcast/stream all music is granted by One License.net via OneLicense #A-726652. All rights reserved.

Gathering Music

You Are Welcome Here

Type: Words and Music; Contributors: Trish and Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan

Text: © 2009, Worldmaking.net

Introit

Come and Find the Quiet Center (BEACH SPRING)

Words (c) 1992 Hope Publishing Company Music Arr. (c) 2021 Hope Publishing Company in I Come With Joy: Worship Openers #3006

Contributors: Shirley Erena Murray, Joe Galyon

Tune: (c) 2021 Hope Publishing Company Text: (c) 1992 Hope Publishing Company

With thanks to Golden Ears United Church, Maple Ridge, Ontario, Canada

Opening Hymn

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Type: Words and Music; First Line: Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, God of love

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1907, alt. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. and harm. Edward Hodges, 1846.

Contributors: Ludwig van Beethoven

The New Century Hymnal

Children's Hymn

Jesus Loves Me

Text: St. 1, Anna B. Warner, 1860; st. 2, 3, David R. McGuire, c. 1970. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1862.

Contributors: JESUS LOVES ME, William Bradbury

The New Century Hymnal

Choral Anthem

Come to the Table of the Lord

Type: Words and Music; ©1992 by Hope Publishing Company; Tune: © 1992 by Hope Publishing Company;

Contributors: Sally K Albrecht, Jay Althouse

Closing Hymn

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Latin, 6th-8th century

Translation: John Neale, 1851; alt.

Text: Public Domain; St. 3 adapts. Thomas Troeger, 1992

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation (WESTMINSTER ABBEY) Type: Music - **Westminster**

Abbey; Instrumental Praise, Vol. 5

Contributors: Valerie A. Floeter; Tune: Setting © 2020 Floeter Music

The New Century Hymnal

Benediction Response – God Be With You

CLI License # 21768896 CCLI Streaming Plus #21768906 CCLI Song #: 49273 Words: Jeremiah Rankin ;

Tune: William G. Toner Copyright: Public Domain