



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God

October 8, 2023

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Indicates an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit as you are able.*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

TOWER BELLS

PRELUDE

Air in F

Handel

WELCOME

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 98

O sing to the Lord a new song;

for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

He has revealed his vindication in the sight of nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Come, let us worship God.

*HYMN 465 (V.1-4)

Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Here, O Lord, your servants gather as we seek the realm of God. But Lord, we humbly confess that is not all we seek in this life. We seek out riches as a way of providing ourselves comfort and security. And so often we hold it tightly out of fear and uncertainty for what the future holds for us. But in doing so, we deprive those whose riches are less and whose uncertainties are greater. Send your Spirit to fill our hearts with a sense of generosity and our minds with the certainty that regardless of our future, you are ever present in our lives. In Jesus' name we pray.

Silent prayer

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The uncertainties of the future are a part of living out our lives. But there is one certainty of which we can be assured and that is the grace and forgiveness of God for all our failings through the salvation purchased for us by Jesus Christ. Believe that we are redeemed people in the sight of God. Amen.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen. Amen.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 28:18-22

Matthew 19:16-22

SERMON

Pulling Together

Rev. Larry Van Hise

ANTHEM

I Choose Love

Mark A. Miller; text by Lindy Thompson
The Chancel Choir

In the midst of pain, I choose love.
In the midst of pain, I choose love.
In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain,
I await the sun again, I choose love. I choose love.

In the midst of war, I choose peace.
In the midst of war, I choose peace.
In the midst of war, hate and anger keeping score,
I will seek the good once more, I choose peace. I choose peace.

When my world falls down, I will rise.
When my world falls down, I will rise.
When my world falls down, explanations can't be found,
I will climb to holy ground, I will rise. I will rise.

In the midst of pain, I choose love.
In the midst of pain, I choose love.
In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain,
I await the sun again, I choose love. I choose love.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Humbled by God's generosity, let us offer our gifts to God and God's ministries through Christ's church.

*Please leave your offering in the boxes at the front and rear of the sanctuary
or make your gifts online or via mail.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to witness to Christ's ministry in your world. Amen.

*RESPONSE

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN 388 (V.1-4)

O Jesus, I Have Promised

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The Rejoicing

Handel

Worship Leaders

Rev. Larry Van Hise

Gloria Snyder, Organist

Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director

The Chancel Choir

Donna Van Norman, Liturgist

Tech Support: Jacob Van Norman, Bill Bartlett, Rich Linnell, Pat Koefoed

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