



# First Presbyterian

## CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God

July 23, 2023

The Eighth 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

Gabriel's Oboe

E. Morricone

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 8:1, 3-6, 9

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**You have set your glory above the heavens.**

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;  
**what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?**

Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.

**You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet.**

**O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

\*HYMN 162 (V.1-5)

O Lord, Our God, How Excellent

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Father/Mother God in heaven, we thank you for the freedom you have given us through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. But we confess today that we often live like slaves. Instead of living like you delight in us, we avoid you in shame and guilt. Instead of receiving our favor as a gift, we try to earn it with our efforts. Instead of freedom, we prefer our chains. Instead of pursuing your purposes, we cling to our short-sighted agendas. Forgive us. Embrace us. Cleanse us. Heal us. We ask this in Jesus' name.**

*Silent prayer*

**Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: You lovingly cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit. Your forgiveness reaches us through every moment of our lives. Thank you, dear Holy One, for holding us in your purifying love.

**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

Psalm 139:14

Genesis 1:26-31

John 1:1-5

SERMON

Mother in the Garden

Pat Koefoed

SOLO

The Call

R. Vaughan Williams  
Rich Linnell, soloist

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:  
Such a Way, as gives us breath:  
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:  
Such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, My Light, my Feast, my Strength:  
Such a Light, as shows a feast:  
Such a Feast, as mends in length:  
Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:  
Such a Joy, as none can move:  
Such a Love, as none can part:  
Such a Heart, as joys in 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 box at the front 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 357 (V. 1-4)

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

\*BENEDICTION

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

POSTLUDE

Old Hundredth

J. Pachelbel

Worship Leaders

Pat Koefoed, Guest Preacher  
Bud Snyder, Guest Organist  
Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director  
Ellis Finger, Liturgist

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

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