



# First Presbyterian

## CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God

August 27, 2023

The Thirteenth 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

In Evening Air

Aaron Copland

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalms 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us;

**that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God, let all the peoples praise you.

**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,**

for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

**The earth has yielded its increase and our God has blessed us.**

May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

**Come, let us worship God.**

\*HYMN 482 (V. 1-3)

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**We do praise you Lord, O King of creation and salvation. And as we draw near this morning, we do so in glad adoration. But even while we sing your praises, our minds drift from joyful reverence to troubling distraction. We allow the noise and chaos of the outside world to overwhelm our sense of peace and tranquility. We permit worries about our health and well-being to flood over our confidence for the future. And we lose hope in overcoming the challenges that we confront each day. Forgive us, Lord, for not bringing our burdens to you and for not holding fast to your mercy and grace. Send your Spirit to guide us and infuse us with the hope for a better tomorrow that can only come from your love for us. In Jesus' name we pray.**

*Silent prayer*

**Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

No matter how often we attempt to solve our problems alone by forgetting we are never abandoned, rest assured that our eventual salvation is promised to us by a faithful, loving God through the saving grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ. 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

Isaiah 51:1-6

Matthew 16:13-20

### SERMON

Coming Home!

Rev. Vernon Van Hise

## 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.**

## THE 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 379 (V.1-4)

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Hallelujah

Leonard Cohen

*The flowers on the communion table are given in loving memory of friends and family we hold dear.*

Worship Leaders

Rev. Vernon Van Hise

Bud Martin, Guest Organist

Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director

Noralee Manzek, Liturgist

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

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