



The Presbyterian Church on the Hill
10th Sunday after Pentecost
August 18, 2019
10:15 a.m.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

As we gather, please spend time in silent reflection in preparation for worship.

GATHERING MUSIC

CHIMES

PRELUDE

“Praise to the Lord”

arr. Shirley Brendlinger

▲ CALL TO WORSHIP

Stephen Lofthouse, liturgist

Leader: God is moving in the world,

People: with flames of justice and waters of mercy.

Leader: Christ is calling in the world,

People: with whispers of love and cries of compassion.

Leader: Let us worship the one who creates the world.

People: and lend our voices to the Spirit's song.

▲ *If you are able, please stand.*

▲ HYMN 35 “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty” LOBE DEN HERREN

GATHERING PRAYER (unison)

**Gracious God, we greet you again in this sacred space.
We have come to be reminded of your love and your
expectations for our living. We know in our hearts that we
need, want, and desire your presence in our lives.
We come in prayer and listen for your Word to speak to our
hearts and reveal again your desires for us. Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

We never find it easy to ask for forgiveness, but as God's children,
we are called to live in relationship with one another.
We must speak of how we have hurt others, so we might be
forgiven and restored to new life. Please join me as we pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**O God, you are nearby and far off,
in our every moment and in the highest heaven.
Forgive us when we would rather not remember you
in the everyday moments of our lives;
when choosing you would mean putting our neighbors'
needs first;
when following you would challenge our comfortable
assumptions;
when listening to you would change the life we have grown to
love.
Forgive us, God of mercy,
and love us into your reign of true peace.**

Continue in silent prayers of confession.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends, hear the good news: Anyone in Christ is a new creation!
The old life is gone and a new life has begun.
We are forgiven people.
Thanks be to God!

▲ PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us greet one another with signs of Christ's peace.

▲ SUNG RESPONSE - HYMN 581 "Gloria Patri"

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.**

LIFE ON THE HILL

Please sign the red fellowship pad in your pew, closest the center aisle and provide the information requested. Please pass it down your pew and back again.

ANTHEM

"O God of Mercy"

Perry Nelson

Tenors and Basses of PCOH

O God of mercy, hear our prayer. Bring peace to earth again.
Where anger festers in the heart and strikes with cruel hand;
where violence stalks the troubled streets, and terror haunts the land:
O God of mercy, hear our prayer. Bring peace to earth again.
Where homes are torn by bitter strife and love dissolves in blame;
where walls you meant for sheltering care hide deeds of hurt and shame:
O God of mercy, hear our prayer. Bring peace to earth again.
O God, whose heart compassionate bears every human pain,
redeem this violent wounding world till gentleness shall reign.
O god of mercy, hear our prayer. Bring peace to earth again.

Howard Stuempfle, Jr. 1995

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Children up to age 10 are invited to the chancel steps for a brief message. After the anthem, children age 4-10 are invited downstairs to the brick classroom for Kids Corner. Parents, please pick up your children in their classrooms after the service before joining the fellowship time on the front porch.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

▲ HYMN 543 "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me"

GREEN TYLER

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 12:49-56

'I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵²From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³they will be divided:

father against son

and son against father,

mother against daughter

and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law

and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, "It is going to rain"; and so it happens. ⁵⁵And

when you see the south wind blowing, you say, “There will be scorching heat”; and it happens. ⁵⁶You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Strange Fire”

Pastor Julie

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

▲ PRESENTING OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

OFFERTORY

“We’re Marching to Zion”

arr. Cindy Berry

▲ DOXOLOGY – HYMN 710

“We Lift Our Voices”

OFFERING

We lift our voices; we lift our hands;

we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.

Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands;

Lord, use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are,

all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PASTORAL PRAYERS and THE LORD'S PRAYER

If you are in need of pastoral care or a listening ear, please contact Pastor Julie or one of our Stephen Ministry Coordinators Deanne Nirider (281)744-1054 or Rick Degurski (908)309-2378).

**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 724 **“O Jesus, I Have Promised”** NYLAND

▲ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

▲ POSTLUDE **“Angel’s Story”** *arr. Janet Linker*

Our worship has ended – now our service begins.

We invite you to join us for refreshments on the front porch.

*The Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of David R. Kirk by his wife Anna.*

Serving Today

Worship Preparation: Laura Guilfoyle

Greeter: Jackie Colin

Ushers: Team 6: Ralph Jensen, Capt., Letitia Jensen, Carol Hadfield, Jim Hadfield

Nursery Volunteer: Anne Pagnoni

Kids Corner: Anne Pagnoni

Fellowship Hosts: Nancy Kinasczuk, Jamie Montero

Flower Team: Meghan Pringle, Elda Gall

Trustee Duty: Michael Compoly, Linda Klose

Notes from Dr. Jeff

Thanks to the tenors and basses who volunteered to sing this morning!

LIFE ON THE HILL

This Week:

Sunday, August 18: Trip to Spring Lake Theatre

Tuesday, August 20: Property Task Force 7 pm



Opportunities to Give, Grow, Serve:

(See sign-up sheets on tables in back of the sanctuary.)

WORSHIP

- **Be a Greeter:** Welcome our members and guests to worship.
- **Be a Liturgist:** Help lead worship by reading prayers and scripture provided by Wednesday the previous week.
- **Fund a flower arrangement:** Give flowers in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Sign-up on bulletin board near church office.

MISSION

- **Donate school supplies:** Bring school supplies to church to give to Boys and Girls Club of Asbury Park. *****LAST DAY*****
- **Donate food:** Bring non-perishable food items to give to Trinity Church Saturday Soup Kitchen. Bring your extra meals to church to give to The Center in Asbury Park.
- **Saturday Soup Kitchen:** Need volunteers for Saturday, September 7, from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm at Trinity Episcopal Church in Asbury Park. Sign-up sheet on rear table in back of sanctuary.

EDUCATION

- **Adult Study Group:** Study *Stories Jesus Told: How to Read a Parable* by Greg Carey and enjoy lunch together with this twice monthly group. Begins Thursday, Sept. 26 at 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 pm.
- **Men on Hill:** Join this monthly group to study Andy Stanley's *Irresistible* and enjoy fellowship together. Pre-ordered books labeled on back table in sanctuary. Contact Wally French to order a book.

FELLOWSHIP

- **Host Fellowship Time Host:** Set up, provide, serve and clean up refreshments on the porch.

CHURCH ON THE HILL is a diverse, inclusive community of God's people whose faith is led by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. We welcome, love, and empower all persons to become constructive, affirming thinkers, filled with hope, making a difference in the world. Armed with forgiveness and understanding in the knowledge that "God alone is Lord of the conscience" we will move forward in an ever-changing culture and world.

STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

Rev. Julie D. Thompson, TRANSITIONAL PASTOR

Dr. Jeff Unger, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST

Jackie Colin, ADMIN. ASSISTANT/OFFICE SUPERVISOR

Jason Allen, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S & YOUTH MUSIC

Bonnie Carle, NURSERY SUPERVISOR

Bill Turner, PASTOR – HONORABLY RETIRED

Letitia Jensen, WORSHIP PREPARATION COORDINATOR

Jamie Montero, HEAD USHER

Deanne Nirider and Rick Degurski,

STEPHEN MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Michael Compoly, TREASURER

Session Members:

Maureen Bonney, Michael Compoly, Laura Evernham,
Sharon Fix (Clerk), Letitia Jensen, Ralph Jensen, Kurt Kaboth,
Linda Klose, Del Kunert, Deanne Nirider, Anne Pagnoni,
Michael Ryan, Julie Thompson (Moderator), Chris Tobin

Deacons:

Shirley Carle, Robin Compoly (Moderator), Elda Gall,
Janet Lee, Pat Lee, Gee McCormick, Connie Perry,
Meghan Pringle, Wendy Robinson, Randall Stolze

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Office Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri., 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.