



The Presbyterian Church on the Hill
12th Sunday after Pentecost
September 1, 2019
10:15 a.m.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

As we gather together, please spend time in silent reflection to prepare for worship.

GATHERING MUSIC

CHIMES

Samantha Pagnoni, acolyte

PRELUDE

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

arr. Dale Wood

▲ CALL TO WORSHIP

Samantha Pagnoni, liturgist

Come, let us worship the Lord with great joy!

We come to bring praise and thanksgiving to God.

God calls us to service rather than honor.

God calls us to love the unknown rather than the familiar.

We come to this time of worship trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ,
who is the same yesterday, today and forever. Amen.

▲ *If you are able, please stand.*

Bold text is read or sung in unison.

GATHERING PRAYER (unison)

Michael Compoly

**Holy God, you alone are worthy of honor and praise.
 Open our eyes to see that world as you see it.
 Help us to see your presence in all people.
 Transform us in love, grow us in our faith,
 call us to love with a full heart
 and to share your promises with all people. Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Scripture tells us that we are stubborn-hearted, wanting only our way.
 But if we pause to listen to God, and open our hearts to confess our sin,
 God will fill us with forgiveness and hope. Let us pray together, as we say...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**O God, we confess that we exalt ourselves and think we are self-sufficient.
 We seek power and privilege over humility and compassion.
 We climb ladders of success rather than humble steps of justice.
 We still want seats of honor and try to limit the guest list at your table.
 Forgive us, Welcoming God.
 Teach us your generosity. Teach us your humility.
 Teach us your expansive love. Transform us and heal our lives. Amen.**
Continue in silent prayers of confession.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

This is the good news:
 after what God has done for us, what can anyone or anything do to us?
 We are new people, graced by our loving God.
**Forgiven, embraced, welcomed by our God, we will offer
 open hearts and serving hands to everyone we meet.
 Thanks be to God. Amen.**

▲ PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us welcome one another with signs of Christ's peace.

▲ CONGREGATIONAL 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. When you are done please pass it down your pew and back again and note those worshipping with you.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Children are invited to chancel steps for a brief message and then to remain in the service.

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Psalm 81:1, 10-16

- ¹ Sing aloud to God our strength;
shout for joy to the God of Jacob.
- ¹⁰ I am the LORD your God,
who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.
- ¹¹ ‘But my people did not listen to my voice;
Israel would not submit to me.
- ¹² So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts,
to follow their own counsels.
- ¹³ O that my people would listen to me,
that Israel would walk in my ways!
- ¹⁴ Then I would quickly subdue their enemies,
and turn my hand against their foes.
- ¹⁵ Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him,
and their doom would last for ever.
- ¹⁶ I would feed you with the finest of the wheat,
and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.’

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Luke 14:1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely on a sabbath day? When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ‘When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, “Give this person your place”, and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, “Friend, move up higher”; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.’ He said also to the one who had invited him, ‘When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.’

SERMON

“Welcome to the Table”

Pastor Julie Thompson

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

HYMN 43

“You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord”

ON EAGLE’S WINGS

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Life-giving Bread”

Ricky Manalo

Life-giving bread, as our hearts are transformed anew
and life-giving wine, may we share in a life with you.

Coming together we celebrate life, we are a people gathered as one.

Coming together with Christ as our head; life-giving word to life-giving bread!

Tasting and seeing the goodness of God bids us to bless the Lord at all times.

Tasting and seeing the fruit of the vine; life-giving joy in life-giving wine!

Called now to witness your love so divine, we are the branches, you are the vine.

Called to be servants, called to become salt for the earth, and light for the world!

**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.
We lift our voices; we lift our hands;
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.**

▲ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

May God be with you.

May God also with you.

People of God, open your hearts.

We open them to God, who welcomes us at this Table.

People of God, give thanks to the Lord our God.

We give God our thanks and praise.

Prayer continues...

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

When bread is served (gluten free in center), please take a piece and wait to eat it until invited to partake together.

“I Am the Bread of Life”

arr. John Carter

When cup is served, please take a cup and wait to drink it until invited to partake together.

“Come Share the Lord”

arr. John Carter

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

- ▲ HYMN 543 “God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me” GREEN TYLER
- ▲ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION
- ▲ POSTLUDE “Green Tyler” *Richard Cooligan*

Our worship has ended – now our service begins.

The Chancel flowers are given by Laura and Ed Kelsey to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Maurice and Bette Adams and Isabell Adams

Serving Today

Worship Preparation: Laura and Ed Kelsey

Greeters: Ralph and Letitia Jensen

Ushers: Team 2: Diana Griffith (Capt.), Sharon Fix, Pat Lee, Stephen Lofthouse

Nursery Volunteer: Megan Zarodnansky

Liturgists: Michael Compoly, Samantha Pagnoni

Fellowship Host: Letitia and Ralph Jensen

Flower Team: Wendy Robinson, Meghan Pringle

Trustee Duty: Deanne Nirider, Linda Klose

Communion Setup: Gee McCormick, Meghan Pringle

Communion Cleanup: Shirley Carle, Jamie Montero

Elders and Deacons Serving Communion:

Laura Evernham (Captain), Linda Klose, Connie Perry, Pat Lee

Deacons Serving Communion to Homebound Members:

Janet Lee, Connie Perry, Shirley Carle, Gee McCormick, Randy Stolze

Members Receiving Communion:

Ginny Akelaitis, Mary Galyean, Asela Gejo, Bette Grande, Jim Isacson, Bill Weller

Notes from Dr. Jeff

Thanks to all of the volunteer singers this morning.

Chancel Choir rehearsals begin Thursday, Sept. 12, at 7:30 pm.

We hope to see a few new faces this fall. Please consider sharing your talent!

LIFE ON THE HILL

This Week:

- Monday, Sept. 2 Church office closed.
Sunday, Sept. 8 Youth Bowling at Bradley Beach Bowl, 5-7 pm



Opportunities to Give, Grow, Serve:

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

MISSION

- **Family Promise** - Lincroft Presbyterian Church has graciously agreed to host Sept. 8 - 14 on very short notice, but they need our help! Their Coordinator Kathy Noah (Wally French's daughter) would greatly appreciate any assistance we can provide. Please contact Wendy Robinson (848-203-4444) or Wally French if you can serve as a **Dinner Preparer, Evening Host, or Overnight Host**. Thank you for your continued support!
- **Saturday Soup Kitchen:** Volunteer for Sat., September 7, from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm at Trinity Episcopal Church in Asbury Park. Sign-up sheet on table in back of sanctuary.

EDUCATION

- **Adult Study Group:** Study *Stories Jesus Told: How to Read a Parable* by Greg Carey and enjoy lunch with this twice monthly group. Begins Thurs., Sept. 26 at 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 pm.
- **Men on the 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.
- **Women's Bible Fellowship** will be studying Mark Batterson's Whisper – How to Hear the Voice of God. They meet every third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm beginning on September 17, 2019. Sign-up sheet in the rear of the sanctuary.

FELLOWSHIP

- **Get Ready for our Rally Day Cookout!** Can you help with tailgate-type games, or “man” the grill? Sign up to help for this big event on September 15.
- **Host Fellowship Time:** Set up, provide, serve and clean up refreshments on the porch.

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



If you, or a neighbor, co-worker or friend could benefit from the trained, caring presence and listening ear of a Stephen Minister, please contact one of our Stephen Leaders: Deanne Nirider (281/744-1054) or Rick Degurski (908/309-2378).

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

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.