



First Presbyterian Church

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 20, 2023 at 10:00

THE CHURCH GATHERS

Handbell Chimes – *The ringing of the chimes invites you to a time of Rest...Renewal...Hope*

Prelude

Lucas Brown, piano

Opening Sentences

One: God has forgiven us and drawn us close,

ALL: reconciling us through Jesus Christ, who has lavished upon us the fullness of the blessed Holy Spirit.

One: With glad and grateful hearts, praise the Lord!

ALL: The Lord's name be praised!

Hymn #439 (insert)

“In Christ There Is No East Or West”

*** Call to Confession**

Let us confess our sins without fear to the One who yearns to embrace us, forgive us, protect us, and bless us. to the Lord of all, who is generous to all who call upon him.

*** Prayer of Confession**

All: Have mercy on us, Lord Jesus; we are tormented! Our lives have been disrupted by the devil and by our own devilish desires and evil exploits. We are dismayed at your presence, anguished by the awful fallout of our own failures. We cannot take back what we have said or undo what we have done or atone for the agony we have caused. We are haunted by the past, plagued by the present, and fearful of the future. We shrink away from your gaze as strangers outside your circle of blessing. Yet the faith you have planted in us reaches out for your favor, returns to your presence, and hungers for your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*** Silent Prayer**

*** Declaration of Forgiveness**

One: Our God kisses us with kindness, forgiving our sins, preserving our lives, and restoring our souls through the abundant provision of our Lord Jesus Christ. Receive now that for which faith has hungered: you are forgiven and healed in the name of Jesus the Christ.

ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen.

*** We Celebrate God's Forgiveness** *Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri) #579*
579 **Glory Be to the Father**

Gloria Patri

Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men." The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines that support the vocal melody.

*** Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

*** Prayer for Illumination**

All: Merciful Savior, your suffering has saved our lives, secured our future, and restored us to relationship with God. Remove the shame and fear that cause us to cower in your presence. By the power of your Spirit,

open our eyes and hearts to your Word of love, mercy, healing, and blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Reading: Genesis 45: 1-15

1 Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. **2** And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. **3** Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed they were at his presence.

4 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. **6** For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. **7** God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep it alive for you many survivors. **8** So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. **9** Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. **10** You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. **11** I will provide for you there- since there are five more years of famine to come- so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' **12** And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. **13** You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." **14** Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. **15** And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; after that his brothers talked with him.

Sermon

"The Great Set-up"

Rev. Nikki Passante

We Affirm our Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy
Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the
dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father
Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe
in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the
forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

[Practicing Abundant Generosity](https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri11244/give/now) <https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri11244/give/now>



Offertory "Prayer": "Be Thou My Vision" arr. Lucas Brown
Sierra Milone, soprano

- * Doxology #592 (below) *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*
- * Recommitting Our Lives to Service

SERVICE MUSIC

606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise *him, all crea-tures
here be-low; praise *him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise
Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

*Or "God"

TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDRETH
LM

* Hymn #370 "Just as I Am, Without One Plea"

LEAVE TO SERVE

* Charge and Benediction

Sending Music

Lucas Brown, piano

Please use the Postlude time and music to reflect on today's worship experience and how it will support you in the week to come.

Notes for Bulletin:

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WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH! It is good to have you here in person or online. Please be in touch if you have news to share or would like more information or to talk to a pastor. Staff contact information is below. Read full announcements in our weekly [email newsletter](#), available on the church website. Subscribe on the [Contact Us](#) tab.

THE NURSERY care is available in the Hospitality Center – across from Fellowship Hall.

AFTER-WORSHIP HOSPITALITY IS BACK! Linger a moment or two after the service to greet fellow worshippers. And please sign up with a friend or a group to host one Sunday by providing simple refreshments. There is a sign-up on the snack table or contact someone on the Hospitality Committee: jmfiorella@gmail.com, shoemakerjanet68@gmail.com, qlerch2@comcast.net, or phurd75@gmail.com,

PASTOR NIKKI LEADS SUMMER WORKSHOP SERIES- This summer Pastor Nikki is offering three, one-hour workshops after Sunday worship in the Hospitality Center. Light snacks will be provided as well as ample time for questions and discussion!

TODAY: Gun Violence

The Presbyterian Outlook is dedicating its June issue to the topic of gun violence. The Christian Education and Justice and Advocacy committees invite you to join a discussion on August 13. Copies of the issue will be available.

PASTOR NIKKI'S BIBLE STUDY THURSDAYS @ 7 - Pastor Nikki is hosting a Bible Study via Zoom on the book of Genesis entitled "Genesis: Relational and Family Dynamics." The reading schedule is linked on the [Adult Ed page](#) of the website. The Zoom link is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81798184993>, and we will also meet in person at pre-determined times. Please contact Pastor Nikki if you have questions and are interested or join us on Zoom!

The August Porch Bible Study will meet in the Bean Parlor at 4 p.m., on Tuesday, August 15. For more information, contact Deb Nussbaum at debranussbaum1987@gmail.com.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 8/13/23: 100 in person and 5 online.

2023 CHURCH OFFERING UPDATE - Please note that target numbers on the right now represent a 12 month budget.

| | <u>Received to date</u> | <u>Twelve-month budget goal</u> |
|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Envelope Giving: | \$ 381,413.00 | \$ 570,270.00 |
| Loose Offering: | \$ 6,920.00 | \$ 12,000.00 |

Per Capita: \$ 8,777.00 \$ 16,000.00

Worship Activity Bags are now available for children attending worship in Fellowship Hall this summer. The bags contain coloring sheets and crayons and may be taken home. Children are encouraged to draw on the bags themselves as well as the enclosed activity sheets.

One of the highlights of the year at St. Wilfrids is the day we distribute Christmas gifts to the children. Many would receive nothing without your generous donations. Rose Guthrie has coordinated the gift collection and distribution for the past several years and for that we (and the kids) are thankful. **Rose is ready to pass the torch to a new coordinator.** Want to learn more about what this volunteer assignment is all about? **Then just contact Paul Urian at umanpaul@me.com.**

Did you go to Kentucky in 2022? Do you have your tee shirt you are no longer using? If so, please text me, Margot Dark, at 609-238-0694. I am trying to make a quilt with all Drew's mission trip tee shirts, and he still likes wearing Kentucky. Thank you!

Haddonfield residents concerned about fire safety should contact either the Haddon Fire Company at 856-429-4308, or Travis Bogetti at 856-429-1960 to arrange for a member of the Fire Company to visit your home and conduct a free safety inspection.

As has been FPCH tradition since 2002, we will again be ringing the bells on Monday September 11 first at 8:46 AM, then 9:03 AM, 9:37 AM and 10:03 AM. And we need your help! **If you are or know a family member of a victim we would be honored for you to join us and help us ring. IF you just want to honor those by ringing that will work as well.** Please contact Margot Dark @ margotdark@msn.com and let me know your availability (and any relationship). I will be reaching out to the community, so please let me know sooner rather than later.

Our office administrator, Olivia Willison, will be on vacation from Thursday 8/10-Sunday 8/19.

American Red Cross will be having a blood drive in Fellowship Hall on Friday, September 1st, 2023, from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM. To schedule an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: First Presbyterian Church

Coming in the Fall:

New Members Classes:

When: Sunday mornings after worship beginning September 17th

Where: The Parlor after worship beginning September 17th

Contact: Rev. Dr. Marvin Lindsay and/or Rev. Nikki Passante

There will be four classes in total from Sunday September 17th through October 8th . During this time, we will hear one another's faith stories, and meet staff members, elders, and deacons. We'll hear from other ministry leaders about stewardship, and even have a building tour. As a side note I feel like most of us may benefit from a building tour! We'll get to know each other better, make connections, and learn more about the Sacraments including Presbyterian theology. We'll also hear more about what makes First Presbyterian here in Haddonfield unique. You may RSVP to Rev. Nikki Passante or Rev. Dr. Marvin Lindsay if you're interested. Our goal is ultimately for attendees to find their spiritual home, wherever that may lead!

Discovering God's Vision For Your Life: You and Your Spiritual Gifts:

When: Sunday mornings after worship beginning September 17th

Where: The Hospitality Center after worship beginning September 17th

Contact: Rev. Nikki Passante Classes will also begin also on September 17th and will run for 6 weeks, through October 22nd. We will learn a great deal about Spiritual Gifts, we'll both take a Spiritual Gifts Inventory and score it. Topics will include:

What Does God Want me to Do with My Life? ; Who Am I? ; What Makes me Unique? ; Your Calling. ; God's Vision and Your Vision Coming Together. This offering is generously provided for by Stephen Ministries in St. Louis. Questions? Interested? Contact Pastor Nikki at npassante@haddonfielpres.org. All are welcome to attend.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Please pray for the following individuals and situations throughout the week. If you would like to add a personal prayer request, please contact one of the pastors or our new Office Administrator, Olivia Willison. Requests will be revisited every 30 days.

Prayers for the Church

- Pray for the people, government, and country of **Ukraine** as war continues.
- Please pray for **Jeff** who is living with cancer, and pray also for his wife **Wanda (8/9-Seddon family)**
- Continued prayers for the health and healing of **Dottie Peatman (8/8- M. Westermaier)**
- Prayers for **Jacob Stefano**, age 9, who has been battling metastatic glioblastoma since age 3. Please ask for God's healing and loving grace upon this sweet little boy **(8/8-L. Kirsch)**
- Continue in prayer for **Amy and Brad Strauss**, that God continues to abide in their lives **(8/4-pastors)**.

- Keep **Todd** in your prayers that God would grant him every good thing in line with God's will **(8/3-N. Passante)**
- Please continue to pray for **Tony's ongoing recovery (8/3-MB Creamer)**
- Please pray for the **personnel at Cooper** who will be involved with Bud Miller's valve replacement, and **prayers of thanksgiving and praise** for the personnel who have been involved in his successful procedures! **(8/2-B. Miller)**
- Continue in prayer for **Isabel Pross** as she continues cancer treatment **(8/2-pastors)**
- Please pray for **Morgan**. God knows the needs. **(7/31-pastors)**
- Please **pray for freedom for both Jennifer and Tiffany**, and for their families **(7/29-G. Ladies)**
- Pray for **Ty Liska's children** who are in a guardianship situation; **pray for healing of the pain** this is causing Ty Liska **(7/28-G. Ladies)**
- Pray for **Beatrice and Colleen** that they would receive faster resolutions to their situations, and pray also for the health of their children and family members **(7/28-G. Ladies)**
- Please pray that **Shanella** will be able to take advantage of the re-entry program and low-income housing **(7/28-G. Ladies)**
- Pray for **Al Ritchie** who is recovering from a fall, and pray also for **Ginny and her family (7/27-pastors)**
- Pray for **Francie's mom** who has gone home to be on hospice **(7/25-L. Sommers)**
- Continued prayers for **Susan**, who has been diagnosed with brain cancer and a mass in lungs. Help her to feel God's presence and strength **(7/24-C. Carty)**
- Prayers for **Ebony** that she will find a healthcare provider who will listen **(7/24-L. Kirsch)**
- Please pray for courage and strength for **Nancy** as she continues with her cancer treatments **(7/20-C. Carty)**.
- Prayers of comfort for **Barbara** as she grieves her husband Don **(7/19-C. Carty)**.
- Please pray for the **Andreski family** as they grieve for Nancy, their beloved wife and mother **(7/18- C. Carty)**
- Pray for **19-year-old Cole**. Cole has battled cancer twice, and was recently diagnosed with a brain tumor and underwent emergency surgery. He is recovering! Pray for continued recovery and full healing! **(7/13- T. Adkins)**

Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Marvin Lindsay, Senior Pastor and Head of Staff – mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org
 The Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante, Associate Pastor – npassante@haddonfieldpres.org
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Just as I Am, Without One Plea 370

WOODWORTH LM

Charlotte Elliott, 1834

William Batchelder Bradbury, 1849
Harm. *The Hymnbook*, 1955

1. Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy
 2. Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a
 3. Just as I am, Thou wilt re - ceive, Wilt wel - come,
 4. Just as I am, Thy love un - known Has bro - ken

blood was shed for me, And that Thou biddest me
 con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with -
 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; Be - cause Thy prom - ise
 ev - ery bar - rier down; Now to be Thine, yea,

come to Thee,
 in, with - out,
 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
 Thine a - lone,

Music: Harmonization copyright, MCLV, by John Ribble; renewed 1983; from *The Hymnbook*, published by Westminster Press.

439 In Christ There Is No East or West

ST. PETER CM

John Oxenham, 1908; alt.

Alexander Robert Reinagle, 1836

1. In Christ there is no east or west, In Him no south or north;
 2. In Christ shall true hearts ev-ery-where Their high com-mu-nion find;
 3. Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, What-e'er your race may be.
 4. In Christ now meet both east and west, In Him meet south and north;

But one great fel-low-ship of love Through-out the whole wide earth.
 His ser-vice is the gold-en cord Close-bind-ing hu-man-kind.
 All chil-dren of the liv-ing God Are sure-ly kin to me.
 All Christ-ly souls are one in Him Through-out the whole wide earth.

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