

ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 13, 2017

10th Sunday after Pentecost/19th Sunday Ordinary Time/Proper 14

Please sign and pass the Friendship Book ("pew pad") where you can also record any prayer requests. Our prayer is that you will experience the presence of the Living God as we worship together.

We invite you to focus your heart and mind in worship.

** indicates please stand as you are able.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Don Meekhof

PRELUDE

Piano

"You Are My King (Amazing Love)"

Billy James Foote / arr. Victor Lavenske

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Rev. Don Meekhof

God lifts us from death to life
and preserves us for God's purposes
through the compassion of
Jesus Christ our Lord
and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
With thanksgiving, praise the Lord!

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***SONGS OF WORSHIP:**

"O WORSHIP THE KING"

(Hymn #29)

(VERSE 1)

O worship the King, all glorious above,
O gratefully sing his power and his love;
our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

(VERSE 2)

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

(VERSE 3)

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

(VERSE 4)

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer and friend.

“HERE I AM TO WORSHIP”

(VERSE 1)

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore you
Hope of a life spent with you

(CHORUS)

***So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that you're my God
And you're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me***

(VERSE 2)

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly you came
To the earth you created
All for love's sake became poor

(REPEAT CHORUS)

(BRIDGE)

*And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross*

(REPEAT CHORUS)

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Call to Confession

God makes no distinctions among us—
the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous.
Indeed, everyone who calls on the name of the Lord
will be saved.

Confessing our sins,
we depend on God's generosity and grace.

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God,
you call us to step out in faith, trusting in you
for all things.**

**We respond to your command but then
sink in doubt and fear.**

We hide from the challenges of bold discipleship.

**We are not able to fulfill your commandments,
for our purposes are never in full accord with yours.**

**Forgive us, we pray, when we confess with our lips
but do not believe in our hearts.**

Help us to practice our faith in all circumstances.

Lift us out of sin into the arms of your mercy.

Though we are distracted by noise all around,

allow us to hear your voice

even when it is the sound of sheer silence. . .

[Use this time for Silent Prayer]

***We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ.
Amen.***

Declaration of Forgiveness

Our God sees all, knows all, forgives all,
restores all

through our Lord Jesus Christ.

No one who believes in him will be put to shame,
for everyone who calls on the name
of the Lord shall be saved.

“PRAISE THE NAME OF JESUS”

(Hymn #128)

Praise the name of Jesus,
praise the name of Jesus.
He's my rock, he's my fortress, he's my deliverer,
in him will I trust.
Praise the name of Jesus.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Don Meekhof

OFFERING OF OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

Faith McCallum

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Invitation to the Offering

Because God cares for all without distinction
and is generous to all beyond measure,
so we, God's people,
are to care for all with generosity and gladness.
We bring our offerings
to be used for God's good purposes
in the church and in the world.

***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

Generous God,
we thank you for your call and claim upon our lives.
Because there is so much more we can become,
and so much more we can do,
we pray that our faith will increase;
that our practice of generosity will be enlarged;
and that our joy in believing
will encourage others
as we share with them the good news of Jesus Christ;
in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

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*You may bring your offering and/or light a candle at the front or
back of the sanctuary.*

Junior Chapel is on summer break until Sept. 10th. The nursery is available for your children during the worship service.

Offertory

“God of Wonders”

Piano

Marc Byrd & Steve Hindalong/arr. Victor Labenske

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Judy Potter

1 Kings 19:9–18 (NIV)

⁹ There he went into a cave and spent the night.

And the word of the Lord came to him: “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

¹⁰ He replied, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

¹¹ The Lord said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.”

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. ¹² After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire.

And after the fire came a gentle whisper. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

¹⁴ He replied, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

¹⁵ The Lord said to him, “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. ¹⁷ Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. ¹⁸ Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have

not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.”

Matthew 14:22–33 (NIV)

²² Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³ After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, ²⁴ and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

²⁵ Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear.

²⁷ But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

²⁸ “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”

²⁹ “Come,” he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

³¹ Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”

³² And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³ Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

MESSAGE

Jamie Fiorino

“You of Little Faith, Why Did You Doubt?”

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Jesus lifted Peter from sinking into the water, Elijah was safe in the storm. Through them God’s salvation was extended to many others. Whom do you know is struggling? How might you strive to lift them up so they may know God’s presence through you?

***SONG OF WORSHIP:**

“GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS”

(Hymn #60)

(VERSE 1)

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with Thee;
thou changest not thy compassions they fail not;
as Thou has been Thou forever wilt be.

(CHORUS)

**Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided.
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

(VERSE 2)

Summer and winter and spring-time and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above.
Join with all nature in manifold witness,
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

(REPEAT CHORUS)

(VERSE 3)

Pardon for sin and peace that endureth,
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

(REPEAT CHORUS)

BENEDICTION

Jamie Fiorino

POSTLUDE

Piano

“Rejoice, the Lord is King”

John Darwell / arr. Cindy Berry

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In 278 days, **our guest preacher this morning, Jamie Fiorino**, will graduate from Princeton Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree. In the meantime, she is finishing her summer internship at Holy Family Hospital this week, looking forward to sleeping in past 5 a.m., and compiling a list of things she will miss about New Jersey. It is a short list.

PRAYER FOR SOUTH SUDAN

God of mercy, whose eye is on the sparrow,
and from whose sight nothing is hidden
open our eyes and our hearts to the plight of your people of South Sudan.

While we have been absorbed in our own concerns and distracted by an
endless news cycle focused on Washington, D.C., the suffering
of twelve million souls has deepened.

This young nation's survival is at risk,
its hope and resources overwhelmed by hunger, thirst, and violence.
We ask your forgiveness for our short attention spans and our limited
imagination.

We pray that you will help us to do better.

We pray for those who are trying to hold on in villages and towns,
scratching for a living, walking miles for water
for families who have fled to overcrowded and dangerous camps.

For those trying to hold life together, always watching and waiting
for the ominous movement of militia on the road into town
for the whistle of incoming shells,
for a cry from a desperate neighbor or a shout of warning
wondering, *is it safe to remain? Shall I send my family away?*

We pray for neighbors in other countries, especially Uganda,
who have already welcomed so many,
whose resources are strained under the burden of hospitality
but who are still willing to do more.

We pray for ourselves, who have failed to watch and pray,
who have the ability to act and the resources to help.

May we reach deeply, give generously, and advocate for justice with
strong voices.

May we lift our voices in a strong and unified advocacy so that
governments will act now to save lives and to protect the
threatened peoples of South Sudan.

May we not forget, nor fail to continue to pray with our hearts and our
actions.

Help us find courage, compassion and hope, for we need your grace.
Amen.

—the Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus, Coordinator, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance,
August 7, 2017

Today's Lectionary Readings

Genesis 37:1–4, 12–28

Psalm 105:1–6, 16–22, 45b

Romans 10:5–15

Matthew 14:22–33

Questions for Reflection

Why did Jesus send the disciples ahead while he stayed to pray alone? How do times of turmoil and anxiety affect your trust in God?

Household Prayer: Morning

God of my destiny,
thank you for a new day in which your purpose will unfold.

Send me now as your servant to succor the suffering
and as your disciple to declare the good news of your Son.

Help me to remember during times of testing
that your word goes ahead of me and upholds me. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Son of God, this day has been crowded with work and service.
This evening, bring me alone with you to the mountain to pray.

Help me to know your reassuring presence with me
through the night hours.

May I come to you and rest in you. Amen.