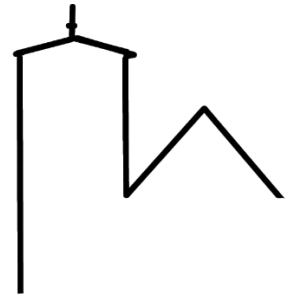


WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1420 West Moss Avenue
Peoria, Illinois 61606



THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST American Independence Day

4 July 2021

Ten O'clock

ALMIGHTY GOD, your Son, Jesus Christ has taught us that what we do for the least of your children we do also for him. Give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave up his life and died for us, but lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

from The Book of Common Worship, Presbyterian Church, USA

GATHERING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE RISEN CHRIST

THE PREPARATION

Prelude and Fugue in G

Dietrich Buxtehude

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Clark-Jones

One: *God is our strength and our song*

All: **God has become our salvation**

One: *Where shall we look when doubt assails us*

All: **To the one whose freedom yields the truths of our lives.**

One: *What shall we say to those who think our faith is foolish?*

All: **God's steadfast love endures forever; God's freedom is beyond measure.**

***THE HYMN**

This Is My Song

Finlandia

**1. This is my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is
Here are my hopes, my dreams my holy shrine;
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.**

**2. My country's skies are bluer than the ocean
And sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine,
But other lands have sunlight, too, and clover
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations
A song of peace for their land and for mine.**

**3. This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms
Thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,
And hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations,
Myself I give thee, let thy will be done.**

Text: Stanzas 1 & 2, Lloyd Stone, 1925
Stanza 3, Georgia Harkness, 1964
Music: Jean Sibelius, 1899

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*praying together*)

MOST HOLY GOD, we open ourselves to Your restorative presence. We are surrounded by beauty, yet we often fail to wonder. We are symbols of hope, yet we often succumb to despair. We are blessed beyond measure, yet we often allow greed to shape our generosity. We are uncommonly free, yet we often bind ourselves to yesterday's failures. We are gifted and graced as a people of faith, yet we often fail to let our light shine. We are loved beyond measure, yet we often fail to pass on Your love unconditionally. Forgive us O Lord.

***TIME OF SILENCE AND PERSONAL CONFESSION**

***KYRIE** (*sung by the Choir*)

Kenneth Leighton in D

Kyrie eleison; Christe eleison; Kyrie eleison
Lord have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord have mercy upon us.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** (*sung by the Choir*)

Kenneth Leighton in D

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men, we praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy, Thou only are the Lord, Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT: II Samuel 5:1-5; 9-10

Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, "Look, we are your bone and flesh. ² For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The Lord said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel." ³ So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel. ⁴ David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. ⁵ At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

⁹ David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inward. ¹⁰ And David became greater and greater, for the Lord, the God of hosts, was with him.

*THE PSALTER

Psalm 48

Diademata

1. Within Thy temple, Lord,
In that most holy place,
We on Thy loving-kindness dwell,
The wonders of thy grace.
We sing Thy praise, O God,
Where e'er Thy Name is known;
By every deed thy hand hath wrought
Thy righteousness is shown.

2. Let Zion now rejoice,
And all her children sing;
Let them with thankfulness proclaim
The judgments of their King.
Mount Zion's walls behold,
About her ramparts go,
And number ye the lofty towers
That guard her from the foe.

3. Observe her palaces,
Mark her defenses well,
That to the young that follow you
Her glories you may tell;
For God as our own God
Forever will abide,
And till life's journey close in death
Will be our faithful guide.

Text: The Psalter, 1912
Music: George Job Elvey, 1868

EPISTLE: II Corinthians 12:2-10

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. 3 And

I know that such a person — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— 4 was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. 5 On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. 6 But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, 7 even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. 8 Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, 9 but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. 10 Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

GOSPEL: Mark 6:1-13

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. 2 On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! 3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. 4 Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” 5 And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. 6 And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. 7 He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. 8 He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; 9 but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. 10 He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. 11 If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” 12 So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. 13 They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 394

There Is a Balm In Gilead

Balm in Gilead

Refrain: There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

1. Sometimes I feel discouraged,
And think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit,
Revives my soul again. *Refrain ...*

2. Don't ever feel discouraged,
For Jesus is your friend,
And if you lack for knowledge,
He'll not refuse to lend. *Refrain ...*

3. If you cannot preach like Peter,
If you cannot pray like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus,
And say, "He died for all." *Refrain ...*

Text: African-American Spiritual
Music: Spiritual; arr. Melva Costen, 1989

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Affirming together*)

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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THE GIFT OF MUSIC

Cantique de Jean Racine

Gabriel Fauré

O Redeemer Divine, our sole hope of salvation, Eternal Light of the earth and the sky, we kneel in adoration, O Savior, turn on us your loving eye. Send down on us the fire of thy grace all-consuming, Whose wondrous might dispersed the powers of hell, And rouse our slumbering souls with radiance all illum'ning. That they may waken thy mercy to tell. O Christ bestow thy blessing on us, we implore thee, Who here are gathered on penitent knee. Accept the hymns we chant to thine eternal glory And these thy gifts we return unto thee. And these thy gifts we return unto thee.

Text: Jean Racine
English: Harold Heiberg

SEALING THE WORD

*At the time of the **Distribution of the EUCHARIST**, please partake of the elements handed out as you entered the church this morning. Worshipers at home are encouraged to use whatever bread and wine are at hand as the food of the Supper. Jesus himself used the left over bread and wine from the Passover Feast to institute the first Eucharist. So we, too, may use those things closest at hand for this celebration. Christians of any age or church affiliation are welcome at Christ's table, where Christ himself is the host.*

INVITATION

One: *The Lord be with you.*

All: **And also with you.**

One: *Lift up your hearts.*

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

One: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

COMMUNION PRAYER

SANCTUS *(sung by the Choir)*

Kenneth Leighton in D

Holy, Holy, Holy ... Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of thy glory, Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Amen.

COMMUNION PRAYER *(continues)*

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATIONS

We proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Dy-ing you de - stroyed our— death, Ris-ing you re - stored our life,
Lord Je - sus come a - gain— in— glo - ry!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G minor (one flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

INTERSESSIONS AND PRAYERS

THE CONSECRATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER *[praying together]*

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.

These are holy things, to keep us holy. Gifts of God for the people of God.

Let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

COMMUNION MUSIC

Strengthen for Service

Leo Nestor

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands That holy things have taken; Let ears that now have heard thy songs to clamor never waken. Lord, may the tongues which "Holy" sang Keep free from all deceiving; The eyes which say Thy love be bright, Thy blessed hope perceiving. Feet that have trod Thy holy courts From light do Thou not banish; bodies by Thy body fed With Thy new life replenish. Strengthen for service, Lord. Hands That holy things have taken.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 564

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

Materna

1. O beautiful for spacious skies
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountains majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

2. O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
Whose stern impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness.
America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self control,
Thy liberty in law!

3. O beautiful for heroes proved,
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved,
And mercy more than life.
America! America!
May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness
And every gain divine!

4. O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

Text: Katharine Lee Bates, 1893
Music: Samuel Augustus Ward, 1882

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

May Christ Support Us

Norman Dello Joio

May Christ support us all the day long, 'Til the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes. And the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is o'er, And our work is done. Then in his mercy, may he grant us a holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen.

... from the Latin Missal, Tr. John Cardinal Neuman

LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Denise M. Clark-Jones, *Pastor*
Thomas Clark-Jones, *Organist-Choirmaster*
The Quartet of Westminster Church
Melissa Blain, soprano; Kate Kortemeier, alto
J. Douglas McQueen, tenor; David Kortemeier, baritone
Elder Larry Hicks, *Video producer*

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THE SERVICE MUSIC is by Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988). A Scot by birth, he lived in either Scotland or England for his entire life. This service was written for use in a collegiate chapel where able singers would be available both in the choir and congregation. It is here edited for choral use only.

A REMINDER. Because of Covid precautions, we are not currently passing the Offering Plate during the service. A plate for your tithes and offerings is available in the Narthex as you depart the service. In addition to leaving your offering in the plate, you may send a check to the church finance office, or give online. Thank you for your faithfulness.

A PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS ...

*We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your abundant and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under your table;
but you are the same Lord
whose character is always to have mercy.
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.*

... *The Book of Common Prayer, 1662*

OPEN HANDS, OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS