

Old Presbyterian Meeting House

SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

September 1, 2019
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
10 a.m.

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

*We invite you to still
your hearts and minds
during the Prelude in
preparation for
worship, praying:*

*God of power, may the
boldness of your Spirit
transform us, the
gentleness of your
Spirit lead us, and the
gifts of your Spirit be
our goal and our
strength. Amen.*

*Please turn off all
cellphones. We ask
that no photos be
taken during the
service.*

▲ *Stand as you
are able.*

PRELUDE

Prelude and Fugue in G minor "Little," BWV 558

J.S. Bach
1685–1750

WELCOME

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us worship God!

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Priscilla Andre-Colton

God calls us to service,
rather than to places of 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.

▲ HYMN OF PRAISE 267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Though we have heard that the humble ones will be exalted, we live as if we did not know your Word. We seek power and privilege over humility and compassion. We climb ladders of success rather than humble steps of justice. We still wrestle for seats of honor, and we still try to limit the guest list at your table. Forgive us in Christ, our model of true humanity, and convict us to reflect the depth of your love. Hear now the prayers we bring to you in silence ...

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 578

O Lord, Have Mercy

ORÉ PORIAJÚ
VEREKÓ

**O Lord, have mercy; O Lord, have mercy;
O Lord, have mercy, have mercy on us.
O Christ, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy;
O Christ, have mercy, have mercy on us.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

▲ ACT OF PRAISE 591

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

HALLE, HALLE

**Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

▲ PASSING THE PEACE

Stand, as you are able, and greet your neighbors, saying, "**The peace of Christ be with you.**"
Respond by saying, "**And also with you.**"

GOD'S WORD TO US

ANTHEM

Verleih uns Frieden

Felix Mendelssohn

Translation: Grant us peace graciously, Lord God, in our time; there is indeed no other who could fight for us than you, our God, alone.

1809–1847

Text by Martin Luther (1483–1546)

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16

Pew Bible, pp. 213–214

Luke 14:1, 7–14

Pew Bible, p. 72

Joe Cavender, Lay Reader

TIME WITH CHILDREN *Bridges to Worship will resume September 8.*

▲ HYMN OF PREPARATION 767

Together We Serve

SAN ANSELMO

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Turning the Tables

Dr. Robert R. Laha

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Excerpted from *A Declaration of Faith*, 1977

Christ teaches us to go beyond the legal requirements in serving and helping our neighbor, to treat our neighbor's needs as our own, to care passionately for the other's good, to share what we have. It is part of our discipline to live in simplicity, avoiding greed and luxury that threaten our neighbor's survival. We are obligated to speak the truth in love, to listen with patience and openness, to love our enemies, to accept the risk and pain which love involves.

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND INVITATIONS TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"Drum sing ich mit meinem Liede" from *Symphony No. 2* ("Lobgesang") Felix Mendelssohn
Translation: So I sing your praises with my song forever, faithful God, and thank you for all the good you have done to me. Though I wander in night and deep darkness and enemies beset me all around I will call upon the name of the Lord, and he has saved me by His goodness.

Source of text unknown

Suzanne Karpov Seigart, soprano

Nathan Letourneau, tenor

▲ DOXOLOGY 607

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

▲ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

▲ HYMN OF DEDICATION 543

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me
O Christ, Surround Me

GREEN TYLER

▲ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

▲ RESPONSE 600

Amen

AMEN

▲ POSTLUDE

March from *Athalia*, op. 74

Felix Mendelssohn

Transcribed by Wilbur Held (1914–2015)

Please remain in your pews until the postlude begins.

Notes on the music

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy was born to an affluent Jewish family in 1809 and was shown off around Europe as a prodigy just as Mozart had, playing and improvising on piano and violin. At the age of 16, he had already written his famous "Wedding March" and just a year later, the very similar "March" heard today from the incidental music for Jean Racine's play *Athalia*. After being baptized in the Reformed Church, he added the surname Bartholdy, and became engrossed in writing sacred choral music, including today's gentle prayer for peace, "Verleih uns Frieden" (1831), and his largest-scale choral work aside from the oratorios, *Symphony No. 2* (nicknamed "Lobgesang" ["Hymn of Praise"]). The duet you'll hear today is not from the Psalms as with the other movements, but the text is certainly reminiscent of Luther's Psalm translations. Since Mendelssohn is generally considered to have "revived" interest in the music of J. S. Bach, today's service will begin with one of Bach's "little" preludes and fugue pairs.

Notes for Visitors

We encourage you to speak with an usher or to visit opmh.org to learn more about our congregation. During the program year (roughly September–May), we hold worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m., with education classes for all ages at 9:30 a.m.

Childcare for children under four is available in the Education Building from 9–11:30 a.m. Please ask an usher for directions.

