

# Old Presbyterian Meeting House

## SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

August 11, 2019  
Ninth 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.*

### PRELUDE

"Rhosymedre" from *Three Preludes*  
*Founded on Welsh Hymn Tunes*

Ralph Vaughan Williams  
1872–1958

### WELCOME

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

## PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

### INTROIT

People get ready  
James Huchla, tenor  
Suzanne Karpov Seigart, soprano

Curtis Mayfield, arr. S. Seigart

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Mrs. Noelle Castin

Come, let us listen for the voice of God.  
**We come to hear God's voice in faithful questions.**  
Come, let us watch for the presence of God.  
**We come to see God in our neighbors.**  
Come, let us rejoice in God's presence.  
**We come to rejoice and worship God together!**

### ▲ HYMN OF PRAISE 410

God Is Calling through the Whisper

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, you tell us that where our treasures are, our hearts are sure to be. Forgive us when we treasure the things of the world more than the depth of your grace; when we choose comfort over faithfulness, power over love, wealth over discipleship, selfishness over service. Forgive us and move us, that through the act of confession we may recognize our failings and be freed by your grace to try again. 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

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

▲ Stand as you  
are able.

## ▲ 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

"Sanctus" from *St. Cecilia Mass*

Translation: *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabaoth, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!*

Text from the Mass Ordinary, based on Isaiah 6:3

James Huchla, tenor

Charles Gounod

1818–1893

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8–16

Luke 12:32–40

Pew Bible, pp. 211–212

Pew Bible, p. 70

Anne Paine West, Lay Reader

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

## ▲ HYMN OF PREPARATION 451

Open My Eyes, That I May See

OPEN MY EYES

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SERMON

Standing on the Promises

Dr. Robert R. Laha

## OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

### ▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adapted 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

"Rejoice greatly" from *Messiah*  
Text from Zechariah 9:9–10  
Suzanne Karpov Seigart, soprano

G.F. Handel  
1685–1759

## ▲ 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 838

Standing on the Promises

PROMISES

## ▲ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## ▲ RESPONSE 600

Amen

AMEN

## ▲ POSTLUDE

Improvisation

Steven Seigart  
b. 1990

*Please remain in your pews until the postlude begins.*

### Notes on the music

Today we begin with Welsh-born Ralph Vaughan Williams's tranquil prelude on "Rhosymedre" and then, a bit unusual for the summer, an introit that's probably more familiar to folks for its use outside the church, but which has its roots in the spiritual tradition. The dramatic "Holy, holy, holy" of today's anthem and rapid-fire coloratura of the offertory's "peace proclamation" of the coming Messiah foreshadow our Advent observance, but also link us to today's readings of waiting, watching, and getting ready. Having spoken at length about *Messiah* (as well as having plugged our own performance of the oratorio on December 1), just a word about Gounod: you may know him as the composer of *Faust*, or *Roméo et Juliette*, or of the Bach/Gounod "Ave Maria," but his contribution to sacred vocal music in France cannot go unacknowledged. Ever-mindful of the air of paranoia after the revolution, he cleverly combined patriotic strains of the Republic with the traditional Catholic mass in the *St. Cecilia Mass* to appease the powers-that-be and usher in a new age of French sacred music.

### Notes for Visitors

We encourage you to speak with an usher or to visit [opmh.org](http://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.

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

