

Old Presbyterian Meeting House

SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

February 9, 2020

8:30 and 11 a.m.

SILENCE

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.

PRELUDE

Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten sein, BWV 641

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

INTROIT

Let the heav'n light shine on me

Spiritual,
arr. Roland M. Carter
b. 1942

CALL TO WORSHIP

From the deepest places of our lives, we cry to God.

God, hear our voices; do not be far from us.

Let us not forget God's steadfast love and power to redeem.

Let us wait for the Lord and find hope in God's Word.

Adapted from Psalm 130
Rev. Katherine A. Stanford

▲ HYMN OF PRAISE 816

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DEN
LIEBEN GOTT

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord. Hear our cry. Our sins have crippled us, bound us, buried us and cut us off from you, our source of life. But there is forgiveness with you and great power to redeem. Breathe your Spirit into us so that we may live in the full knowledge of your power and love. Hear now the prayers we bring to you in silence ...

▲ *Stand as you are able.*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 579

Lord, Have Mercy

KYRIE ELEISON (ORTHODOX)

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

▲ACT OF PRAISE 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen, amen.

▲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

This little light of mine
Suzanne Karpov Seigart, soprano

Attrib. to Harry Dixon Loes
1892–1965
Arr. Moses Hogan
1957–2003

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 42
Romans 8:18–27, 31–39

Pew Bible, p. 487
Pew Bible, p. 148

TIME WITH CHILDREN *11 a.m.*

Following the children's time, children in kindergarten through 3rd grade are invited to attend Bridges to Worship. Childcare is available for younger children on the first floor of the Education Building.

Leader And as our children depart for Bridges to Worship, we say ...

Congregation May God be with you there.

Leader And the children say ...

Children May God be with you here.

▲HYMN OF PREPARATION 787

God Weeps with Us Who Weep and Mourn

MOSHIER

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Wounded Love

Dr. Robert R. Laha

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From A Declaration of Faith, 1977

In Christ God gave us a glimpse of the new creation God has already begun and will surely finish. We do not know when the final day will come. In our time we see only broken and scattered signs that the renewal of all things is underway. We do not yet see the end of cruelty in the world, the church, or our own lives. In the meantime, we wait and, in the face of death, we grieve. Yet in hope we dare to celebrate life. Nothing, not even death, can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Gaelic Blessing

John Rutter
b. 1945

▲ DOXOLOGY 607

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

▲ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER *8:30 a.m.*

All Communion bread is gluten-free and the cup is juice so that all may come to the table. The ushers will invite you to come forward. Receive the elements by intinction (take a piece of bread and dip it into the cup). Return to your pew by a side aisle. If you wish to receive communion in your pew, please let an usher know.

Liturgy

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus 562 (sung)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

▲HYMN OF DEDICATION 463

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 11 a.m.

▲CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

▲CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

Wendy Matney

▲POSTLUDE

Toccata in Seven

John Rutter

Please remain in your pews until the postlude begins.

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

The image of moving from darkness into light pervades our music today, as we hear the familiar spiritual "This little light of mine" by Moses Hogan, and the less familiar "Let the heav'n light shine on me" by composer and conductor Roland Carter. The former is a unique example of cross-pollination where a children's song written for the Moody Bible Institute became a Spiritual (and many assume it to be one). Some even dispute the claim that Loes wrote the hymn, since it borrows so much from the spiritual tradition, including the plethora of word and melody variants that exist. Today's version, by New Orleans native Moses Hogan, is almost a ballad, slow and understated, with a backup chorus *ooh*-ing and soloist delivering the jazz-influenced harmonies. Eventually, as if opening with heavenly light, the chorus explodes with energy to bring this masterpiece to conclusion. Also today, you'll hear one of John Rutter's most performed pieces, his serene *Gaelic Blessing*. Rutter gives no definitive source to the text, but it shares many tropes in common with other Gaelic prayers, invoking the creator via works of creation ("running wave," "quiet earth," "moon and stars"). To begin the service, we'll have a Chorale-Prelude from Bach's *Orgelbüchlein* ("Little organ book") on the chorale whose words translate to "When we are in the hour of deepest need, and are completely at a loss." The melody is highly ornamented, suggesting anxiety or restlessness, which is quieted toward the end as all parts converge with the words "we will trust in God alone." To close, you'll hear Rutter's playful *Toccata in Seven* with a catchy but slightly lopsided seven beats per bar.

GRATITUDE FOR SERVICE TODAY

Duty Elder: Gerry Cooper | Greeting Deacon: Jeff Beans

Sound: Rich Walker 8:30 a.m. | Skip Bea 11 a.m.

Flower Arranger: Bob Phillips

Notes for Visitors

We encourage you to speak with an usher or to visit opmh.org to learn more about our congregation.

From 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 8:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Please ask an usher for directions.

