



Old Presbyterian Meeting House

SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 25, 2022

PRELUDE

Deep River/There is a Balm in Gilead

Spirituals

arr. Bill Wolaver (b. 1958)

WELCOME

The Lord be with you.

Rev. Katherine A. Stanford

And also with you.

Let us worship God!

INTROIT

Bless His Holy Name

Andraé Crouch

text from Psalm 103:1 and Luke 1:49

(1942-2015)

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Psalm 91

Those who dwell in the shelter of the Most High will say:

“My refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust.”

Under God’s wings we find our refuge.

To God be all glory and honor, now and forever!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, you lift up the lowly and fill the empty; yet we adore the high and mighty. You reach out to the poor; yet we pursue the wealthy. You talk about treasure in heaven; yet we want dollars in our accounts now. Correct our misguided ways. Forgive our lack of generosity. Free us from striving for more than we need and change us so that we can tend to the needs of others and so find our life in Christ. Hear now the prayers we bring to you in silence...

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 551

Lord, Have Mercy

LAND OF REST

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us. (Repeat)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

▲ ACT OF PRAISE 515 V. 1

I Come With Joy

DOVE OF PEACE

I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free, the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.

GOD'S WORD TO US

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 16:19-31

ANTHEM

Poor Man Laz'rus

Spiritual

arr. Jester Hairston (1901-2000)

TIME WITH CHILDREN AND COMMISSIONING THE CONFIRMANDS

Mrs. Noelle Castin

Katerina Brewer

Natalie Cavender

Anette Coats

Alexa Jarecki

Henry Welle

▲ HYMN 766

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

MC KEE

SERMON

Losing Our Way

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 the 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, and to accept the risk and pain which love involves.

INVITATION 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

“Libera me” from *Requiem*

Gabriel Fauré

Translation: Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death on that dreaded day, when the heavens and the earth shall be moved and you come to judge the world by fire. I tremble and fear, till your judgment is passed, and the coming wrath, when the heavens and the earth shall be moved. That dreaded day, the day of wrath, calamity and misery, day of great and exceeding bitterness, when you come to judge the world by fire. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord: and let light perpetual shine upon them.

William Heim, bass solo

(1845-1924)

▲ 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

▲ HYMN 773

Heaven Shall Not Wait

HEAVEN SHALL NOT WAIT

▲ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 600 Amen

Steven Seigart

▲ POSTLUDE

Carillon, Op. 75

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

transcribed by Hugh Blair

▲ Please stand as you are able

Congregation reads the "**bold**" text

MUSIC NOTES

This week, we have such an evocative text to contemplate: the parable of Lazarus and the rich man (called *Dives* in some texts—the Latin word for “rich man”). It causes us to ponder the meaning of wealth as well as our own mortality and life after death. The anthem today is a lively retelling of this story in the form of the spiritual “Poor Man Laz’rus” by Jester Hairston (most famous for his “Amen” we sang all summer). We’ll also have the most dramatic movement of French composer Gabriel Fauré’s *Requiem*, the “Libera me” (“Deliver me”), which turns the petition of the rich man (first as a bass solo) into a communal cry for mercy before subsiding into an introspective call for “eternal rest” and “perpetual light.” To begin the service, a gentle but complex piano reflection on two familiar spirituals by Nashville-based jazz pianist and worship leader Bill Wolaver. At the introit, a hit from modern gospel composer Andraé Crouch: his inspiring “Bless His Holy Name” from 1977. And in thinking about mortality, I was struck by the incredible music at the Queen’s funeral this week, especially the many organ prelude pieces by Edward Elgar. So, for the postlude, I’ll play an orchestral “Carillon” (a bell-ringing pattern), arranged here in a satisfying and well-suited transcription for the organ.

Today

To receive regular prayer updates, email Vicki, vstones@opmh.org.

Duty Elder is Lenore Marema and Duty Deacon is Will Olson.

Today's flowers are arranged by Margaret Whitesides and Larry Williams.

Please join us after worship for Fellowship Time in the Churchyard hosted by the History and Archives Committee.

Live worship today is available at 11:00 AM at opmh.org/livestream.

Recordings are available at vimeo.com/showcase/opmh.

Upcoming

Sundays:

- 9:15 AM-12:15 PM, Childcare for infants and toddlers in the Nursery (Room 14 – Education Building).
- 9:30-10:45 AM, Children's Sunday School begins with music in Heaven, top floor of Education Building.
- 9:30-10:45 AM, Adult Education is a hybrid model with in-person class in Fellowship Hall and Zoom.
- Contact Mary Pratt Perry, mpratt@opmh.org, for Middle School and High School Youth Group schedule.

Looking into the Lectionary, Thursdays at 10:00 AM on zoom, Linda, lindall3@comcast.net

TODAY! Leslie Sherman Memorial Blood Drive, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM, Fellowship Hall, opmh.org/blooddrive

Mass in Blue Jazz Worship Service, Sunday, October 16, 11:00 AM, opmh.org/events

StepALIVE! Walkathon 2022, Sunday, October 16, opmh.org/events

For a complete listing of weekly and upcoming events, visit opmh.org.

WAYS TO GIVE

1. Leave your offering in the offering plates.
2. Give online at opmh.org/give or snap the QR code at right.
3. Text **opmh** to 73256
4. Mail a check to 323 S. Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314.



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