



Old Presbyterian Meeting House

SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

July 25, 2021

PRELUDE

Aria, op. 51

Flor Peeters
1903-1986

WELCOME

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

Rev. Katherine A. Stanford

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, you who hunger for food.

Worship the Lord who turns wants into plenty.

Come, you who hunger for justice.

Worship the Lord who turns weeping into laughter.

Come, you who hunger for life.

Worship the Lord who is our hope and our strength.

▲ HYMN 509

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

HOLY MANNA

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dr. Robert R. Laha

O Christ, when crowds surrounded you, hungry for bread and for your word, you took an offering - five loaves, two fish - and made for them a feast. Still, O Lord, we doubt the abundance of your grace. Still, we are hesitant to share the gifts we have. Still, we wonder whether there is enough for all. Forgive us, O God, and make of us a more generous people. Empower us to share the gift of our lives, and enlighten us to see the miracles around us. For you are the giver of grace upon grace, the one who turns want into plenty. Hear now the prayers we bring to you in silence...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

▲ ACT OF PRAISE 490

Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

BEACH SPRING

O how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born.
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

GOD'S WORD TO US

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 6:1-21

ANTHEM

"Join Hearts and Voices" (premiere)
text by Jane Parker Huber (1926-2008)
The Meeting House Summer Choir

Dr. Steven Seigart
b. 1990

TIME WITH CHILDREN

*Children should remain seated
with their families.*

**May God be with you there.
May God be with us here.
May God be with everyone, everywhere. Amen.**

▲ HYMN 803

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

RESIGNATION

SERMON

Being Fed

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

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Rev. Katherine A. Stanford

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

▲ DOXOLOGY 607

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

▲ HYMN 312

Take Us as We Are, O God

ENDLESS FEAST

▲ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE 600

Amen

Traditional African-American

▲ POSTLUDE

“Toccata in D” from *60 Short Pieces*

Flor Peeters

MUSICAL NOTES

Though the point of Summer Choir is to encourage participation by all by programming familiar “old favorites,” I’ve been recently re-discovering some of my favorite hymn texts, especially those by women hymnwriters, and have decided to set Jane Parker Huber’s “Join hearts and voices” to a new, lively treatment. So, unique for the summertime here at the Meeting House, you’ll get to hear the premiere of a brand-new work; one whose text speaks to the theme at hand, and one whose music is inspiring, memorable, and enriching to our worship. The prelude and postlude today come from Belgian composer Flor Peeters, whose “Aria” combines a simple, lyrical melody with jazz-influenced supporting harmony, and whose “Toccata,” the last and longest of his *60 Short Pieces* takes the French-style Toccata (like Widor and Vierne) to new harmonic extremes in this satisfying showpiece.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in celebration of Bob and Charlotte Campbell's wedding anniversary, by Laura Campbell, Eric Johnson, and Sam.

Today's flowers were arranged by Ellen Beans.

A full worship service livestream at 11 a.m. is available at opmh.org/livestream and, thereafter, recordings of services are available at vimeo.com/opmh.

Artwork: *The Multiplication of the Loaves*, Pablo Mayorga, Solentiname;
image from cst.edu/portfolio-items/the-multiplication-of-the-loaves/#

All are invited to join us in the churchyard for our Lemonade on the Lawn fellowship time following worship today.

Coming Up ...

- July 29 (and every Thursday), 10 a.m. via Zoom: Bible Study "Looking into the Lectionary"
- August 1: Capital Campaign kick-off lunch after the 11 a.m. service, please RSVP at opmh.org/kickoff
- August 2–5: Vacation Bible School
- September 12: Rally Day, and Church Picnic at Fort Hunt Park
- November 5-7: Church Retreat at Massanetta Springs

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

WAYS TO GIVE

1. **Leave your offering in the offering plates** by the doors as you exit the sanctuary.
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**.

