

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ISELIN

Mind, hearts, hands and voices in Christ

Minister: Rev. Chris Houtz

Liturgist: Elder Jennifer Morgan

We request that you silence all electronic devices **before** service begins.

****Please rise in body or spirit.***

Sunday, May 30, 2021

10:30 A.M.

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR THE PROMISE

PRELUDE

Alaine Bolton, Director of Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Jennifer Morgan, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT (2X)

As We Gather in This Place

Gathering

Words and music by
Kevin Boyd

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "As we gath-er in this place We have come to seek your face. May our lives re - flect your grace As we gath-er in this place." The chords indicated above the notes are: D, Dmaj7, Em, A, D, F#m, Bm, Bm/A, Em, A, G, D.

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***THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)**

Elder Jennifer Morgan, Liturgist

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God's name, worship the Lord in holy splendor.

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;

The Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

May the Lord give strength to God's people!

May the Lord bless God's people with peace!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)**

Elder Jennifer Morgan, Liturgist

O blessed Trinity, in whom we know the maker of all things seen and unseen, the

Savior of all both near and far: By your Spirit enable us to worship your divine majesty,

so that with all the company of heaven we may magnify your glorious name, saying:

Holy, holy, holy. Glory to you, O Lord most high. Amen.

* HYMN #1

THE TRIUNE GOD

1 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Descant

4 Ho - ly,

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

ho - ly,

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

THE TRIUNE GOD

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
per - fect in power, in love and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Elder Jennifer Morgan, Liturgist

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but have eternal life. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Elder Jennifer Morgan, Liturgist

God of grace, love, and communion, we confess that we have failed to love you with all our heart, soul, and mind; and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We ignore your commandments, stray from your way, and follow other gods. Have mercy on us. Forgive our sin and raise us to new life that we may serve you faithfully and give honor to your holy name.

Merciful God, hear now our own personal confessions that we lift up to you in silence.

PERSONAL CONFESSION

Rev. Chris Houtz

In the strong name of Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Chris Houtz

God did not send the Son to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

* THE RESPONSE

GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Spirit of the Living God 288

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Please pass the peace with friends and loved-ones, either by calling, texting, or honking if you are outside!)

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Chris Houtz

ANTHEM **Here I Am** *(lyrics and arrangement by Down Here)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy, Holy, Holy One, guide us by the Spirit of truth to hear the Word of life you speak, and to give all glory, honor, and praise to your threefold name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Romans 8:12-17

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— ¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Isaiah 6:1-13

6 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ² Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³ And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

⁴ The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵ And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

⁶ Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷ The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” ⁸ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!” ⁹ And he said, “Go and say to this people:

‘Keep listening, but do not comprehend;
keep looking, but do not understand.’

¹⁰ Make the mind of this people dull,
and stop their ears,
and shut their eyes,
so that they may not look with their eyes,
and listen with their ears,
and comprehend with their minds,
and turn and be healed.”

¹¹ Then I said, “How long, O Lord?” And he said:
“Until cities lie waste
without inhabitant,
and houses without people,

and the land is utterly desolate;
 12 until the Lord sends everyone far away,
 and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.
 13 Even if a tenth part remain in it,
 it will be burned again,
 like a terebinth or an oak
 whose stump remains standing
 when it is felled.”
 The holy seed is its stump.

THE MESSAGE

Hope and Fear

Rev. Chris Houtz

*HYMN #69

GOD'S COVENANT WITH ISRAEL

69 I, the Lord of Sea and Sky
 Here I Am, Lord

Leader or All G Am D G C G D

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

G Em C Am7 D G

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est

Am D G C G D

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

G Em C Am7 C/G D D7

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain All G C G D G C G D G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Am7 G Am7 D G C G C

call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

G C G D G Am7 D7 G Am7 G

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(Memorial Day Acknowledgements)*

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.

THE OFFERING

With grateful hearts, let us bring our tithes and offerings to the God from whom they came.

*THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE (vs 1)

THANKSGIVING

655 What Shall I Render to the Lord

(Psalm 116)

1 What shall I ren - der to the Lord; what
2 Sal - va - tion's cup my soul shall take while
3 Not light - ly dost thou, Lord, per - mit thy
4 With - in God's house, the house of prayer, my

shall my of - fering be, for all the gra - cious
to the Lord I pray, and with God's peo - ple
cho - sen saints to die; from death thou hast de -
soul shall bless the Lord, and prais - es to God's

ben - e - fits God hath be - stowed on me?
I will meet, my thank - ful vows to pay.
liv - ered me; thy ser - vant, Lord, am I.
ho - ly name let all the saints ac - cord.

***THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison)**

We give you thanks, O God, for every blessing you provide—life, health, community, freedom—and above all, the treasure of life in Christ. By your Spirit, empower us to extend these blessings to others for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN #300**

THE CHURCH

We Are One in the Spirit 300
They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Capo 1: (Em) (Bm) (Em)
Fm Cm Fm

1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,

(Am) (Em)
Bbm Fm

we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,

(Am) (Em)
Bbm Fm

and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain (C) (Em)
Db Fm

And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our

(Am) (Em) (Am) (Bm) (Em) (Am/E) (Em)
Bbm Fm Bbm Cm Fm Bbm/F Fm

love; yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION (2x)

As You Travel from This Place

Departing/Benediction

Words and Music by
Jim Strothdee

Musical score for the hymn "As You Travel from This Place". The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is accompanied by chords: (A), D, A, Bm, Em, Bm, A, F#m, F#m7, Bm7, Em7, A, G, A, Em7, A, D, (A). The lyrics are: "As you trav - el from this place - our love is with you, When you jour - ney near at hand or far a - broad. All the life we've shared to - geth - er will con - tin - ue, As you grow in the know - ledge, learn of the wis - dom, and live in the spir - it of our God."

THE POSTLUDE

Friendly Reminders

Church Office open Monday-Friday, 9am to 1 pm

Sanctuary Open for Quiet Prayer and Contemplation
Monday through Thursdays 9 am to 1 pm
(Please call at 732.283.1188 before you come)

Prayer Shawl Ministry
Tuesdays at 2 pm

Wednesdays – Bible Study in Fellow Hall at 11 am

Thursday Congregational Call
Every Thursday at 11 am

Sunday Bible Study
9:00 am

Divine Worship: In sanctuary and on Facebook Livestream
10:30 am