

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ISELIN

Minds, hearts, hands and voices in Christ

Service and Message by: Jennifer Ring, Seminary Intern

Liturgist: Rev. Chris Houtz

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

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

Sunday, June 20, 2021

10:30 A.M.

PRELUDE

Alaine Bolton, Director of Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Chris Houtz

CHORAL INTROIT (2X)

As We Gather in This Place

Gathering

Words and music by
Kevin Boyd

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a D chord and contains the lyrics 'As we gath-er in this place'. The second staff continues with 'come to seek your face.' and 'May our lives re - flect your'. The third staff concludes with 'grace' and 'As we gath-er in this place.' Chord symbols are placed above the notes: D, Dmaj7, Em, A, D, F#m, Bm, Bm/A, Em, A, G, D.

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

Rev. Chris Houtz

Each one of us here is different.

We are unique individuals.

We come from various backgrounds.

We come with differing needs and dreams.

Yet the Lord calls us to worship in unity.

Praise be to God who blesses our diversity and our unity.

Amen.

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

Rev. Chris Houtz

Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labor and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*** HYMN #307 God of Grace and God of Glory**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Rev. Chris Houtz

With humility and honesty, let us confess our sins to our God who is slow to anger and quick to forgive.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Rev. Chris Houtz

God of mercy, we come celebrating our unity, but we confess the many ways that we are divided. Our nationality, ethnic origin, economic status, gender, age and musical preferences all too often obscure the common calling we share in Christ's name. May our common identity as your children and our communal witness to Christ bind us together in your name. Forgive our tendency toward separation and division, and remind us that we are your people.

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

You have reached out for the Lord, seeking God's healing power. It is given to you through God's awesome love. Receive the love of God. Reach out to others with that same compassion. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

*** THE RESPONSE #288 Spirit of the Living God**

***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)

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Chris Houtz

ANTHEM You Are My All in All (arr. Larson)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, great Teacher, Bearer of peace, we seek your wisdom. Open our hearts and minds to your word and to possibilities yet unseen. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

¹As we work together with God, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For God says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.” See, now is the acceptable time; see now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way; through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as imposters, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. ¹¹We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. ¹²There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. ¹³In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

Psalm 133—The Blessedness of Unity

¹How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! ²It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar on the robes. ³It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord ordained God’s blessing, life forevermore.

THE MESSAGE Footprints, Stars and Tattoos Jennifer Ring

***HYMN #408 There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—The 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

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 #655 What Shall I Render to the Lord (vs. 1)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison)

God, you have given us these gifts for a purpose. They are to be used by us, to serve the needs of others. Give us courage, Lord, and the confidence to take these gifts with us now as we go into the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN #726 Will You Come and Follow Me

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION (2x)

As You Travel from This Place

Departing/Benediction

Words and Music by
Jim Strathdee

The musical 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 indicated above the staff. The lyrics are written below the notes.

(A) D A
As you trav - el from this place - our love is

Bm Em Bm
with you, When you jour - ney near at hand or far a -

A F#m F#m7
broad. All the life we've shared to - geth - er will con -

Bm7 Em7 A
tin - ue, As you grow in the know - ledge,

G A Em7 A D (A)
learn of the wis - dom, and live in the spir - it of our God.

THE POSTLUDE

Message from Today's Guest Speaker

Good Morning FPC Iselin, my name is Jennifer Ring and just relocated to Princeton after completing my first year of Seminary remotely in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. I am interning at FPC Metuchen and preaching at surrounding churches each Sunday. I am embarking on a second career after realizing God was pushing me away from my career in Finance. I am excited to finally be in New Jersey and look forward to becoming a part of the Community.

Friendly Reminders

Church Office open Monday-Friday, 9am to 1 pm
(Note: Margarita Estrada off Friday, June 18th, Monday, June 21st,
Friday, June 25th, Monday, June 28th, Friday, July 2nd.
(Coverage will be provided)

Prayer Shawl Ministry
Tuesdays at 2 pm

Wednesdays – Bible Study in Fellowship Hall at 11 am

Thursday Congregational Call
Every Thursday at 11 am

Sunday Bible Study
9:00 am

Session 'in person' meeting: 3rd Sunday of the month, in person, except for July.

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