

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ISELIN

Minds, hearts, hands and voices in Christ

Service and Message by: Rev. Chris Houtz
Liturgist: Elder Betsy Christensen

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

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

Sunday, July 10, 2022

10:30 A.M.



Gathering for Worship

PRELUDE "Hatikvah" (the Hope) [the National Anthem of Israel]
Lyrics: Naftali Herz Imber (1878) Music: Samuel Cohen 1887-1888

**Nikolaos G. Brown,
Guest Organist**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Betsy Christensen

CHORAL INTROIT #20 All Things Bright and Beautiful (vs. 1)

20 All Things Bright and Beautiful

Refrain

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

all things wise and won-der - ful, the Lord God made them all. *Fine*

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple-head-ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum-mer sun,
 4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

God made their glow-ing col - ors; God made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky:
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well. *to Refrain*

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

Elder Betsy Christensen

Love the Lord your God,

With all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind.

Love your neighbor as yourself,

With all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all you strength, and with all your mind.

Do this and you will live!

Let us worship God!

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

Elder Betsy Christensen

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your Word. By your Holy Spirit, help us to receive it with joy, and live according to it, that we may grow in faith and hope and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

***HYMN #305**

THE CHURCH

305 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

1 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
2 Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns su - preme,
3 Let cour - age be our friend; let wis - dom be our guide,
4 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the a - ges long!
em - power - ing us to catch the vi - sion, dream the dream!
as we in mis - sion mag - ni - fy the Cru - ci - fied!
For Christ the Lord has tri - umphed o'er the a - ges long!

In bold ac - cord, come cel - e - brate the jour - ney now and praise the Lord!

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Elder Betsy Christensen

The God who demands justice from us is the God who pours out mercy upon us. Trusting in that gracious love, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Elder Betsy Christensen

God of Mercy: We confess that we have failed to live as your beloved sons and daughters. We have set our minds on the things of this world, and we have neglected the inheritance of love you bestow on your saints. Forgive us, we pray. Free us from our selfish ways and strengthen us to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

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

Hear the good news: Christ is merciful to all who turn to him in repentance. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

THE RESPONSE #582

SERVICE MUSIC

582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B^b F B^b F B^b F Gm F



1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, † with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
F B^b E^b B^b Gm7 C7



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, † with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
C7 F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, † with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Elder Betsy Christensen

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you. (*Please pass the peace of Christ to one another.*)

Hearing and Responding to the Word Proclaimed

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Chris Houtz

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Betsy Christensen

O God, as we receive your Word through your Holy Spirit, open our eyes to your justice, open our ears to your judgment, open our hearts to your love. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle Reading:

Colossians 1:1-14

Elder Betsy Christensen

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

2 To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

3 In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **4** for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, **5** because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel **6** that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. **7** This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, **8** and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

9 For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, **10** so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. **11** May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully **12** giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. **13** He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, **14** in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Psalm Reading (Responsive):

Psalm 82

Elder Betsy Christensen

1 God has taken his place in the divine council;
in the midst of the gods he holds judgment:

2 **“How long will you judge unjustly
and show partiality to the wicked?”**

3 Give justice to the weak and the orphan;
maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.

4 **Rescue the weak and the needy;
deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”**

5 They have neither knowledge nor understanding;
they walk around in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

6 **I say, “You are gods,
children of the Most High, all of you;**

7 nevertheless, you shall die like mortals
and fall like any prince.”

8 **Rise up, O God, judge the earth,
for all the nations belong to you!**

Gospel Reading:

Luke 10:25-37

Rev. Chris Houtz

25 An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” 26 He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” 27 He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.” 28 And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

29 But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” 30 Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. 31 Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. 32 So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ 36 Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” 37 He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

THE MESSAGE

Simple, not Simplistic

Rev. Chris Houtz

BAPTISM

486 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

1 Child of bless - ing, child of prom - ise, bap - tized
 2 Child of love, our love's ex - pres - sion, love's cre -
 3 Child of joy, our dear - est trea - sure, God's you
 4 Child of God, your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to

with the Spir - it's sign, with this wa - ter God has
 a - tion, loved in - deed! Fresh from God, re - fresh our
 are, from God you came. Back to God we hum - bly
 lis - ten for God's call. Grow to laugh and sing and

sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.
 spir - its; in - to joy and laugh - ter lead.
 give you: live as one who bears Christ's name.
 wor - ship; trust and love God more than all.

Sacrament of Baptism

PRESENTATION

Minister:

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. Hear also these words from holy scripture:

Clerk of Session:

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,
One Lord, one Faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Minister:

Obedying the word of our Lord Jesus, and confident of his promises, we baptize those whom God has called. In baptism God claims us, and seals us to show that we belong to God. God frees us from sin and death, uniting us with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection.

By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the church, the body of Christ, and joined to Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice.

Let us remember with joy our own baptism, as we celebrate this sacrament.

Clerk of Session:

On behalf of the session, I present Mila Zoey Doodnauth, child of Travis and Amanda Doodnauth, to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Minister:

Do you desire that Mila be baptized?

Parents:

We do.

Minister:

Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith, and to teach that faith to your child?

Parents:

We do.

Minister to sponsors:

Jennifer, Jared, Ray and Nadia, will you, by your prayers and witness, help Mila to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Sponsors:

We will.

Minister to the congregation:

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Mila by word and deed, with love and prayer?

Congregation:

We do.

Minister:

Will you encourage her to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful members of his church?

Congregation:

We will.

Minister to the children in the congregation:

Today, we celebrate that Mila is becoming part of our church family. We are all God's children. These questions are for the children of the church.

Will you help Mila remember that God loves her and we love her?

Children:

We will.

Minister:

Will you share the stories of Jesus with Mila?

Children:

We will.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Minister:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism we enter the covenant God established in Jesus Christ. Within this covenant God gives us new life, strengthens us to resist evil, and nurtures us in love. Through this covenant, we choose whom we will serve, by turning from evil and turning to Jesus Christ.

Minister to Parents:

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

Parents:

We do.

Minister:

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Parents:

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Minister:

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

Parents:

We will, with God's help.

Minister to congregation:

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

Congregation:

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

Minister:

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Congregation:

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Minister:

Do you believe in God the Spirit?

Congregation:

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.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, Eternal God, for you nourish and sustain all living things by the gift of water. In the beginning of time, your Spirit moved over the watery chaos, calling forth order and life. In the time of Noah, you destroyed evil by the waters of the flood, giving righteousness a new beginning. You led Israel out of slavery, through the waters of the sea, into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus was baptized by John and anointed with your Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection, Christ set us free from sin and death, and opened the way to eternal life. We thank you, O God, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. From it we are raised to share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Send your Spirit to move over this water that it may be a fountain of deliverance and rebirth. Wash away the sin of all who are cleansed by it. Raise them to new life, and graft them to the body of Christ. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon Mila, that she may have power to do your will, and continue forever in the risen life of Christ. To you be all praise, honor, and glory; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns forever. Amen.

THE BAPTISM

Minister:

Travis and Amanda, how do you name your child?

Mila Zoey, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING

Minister:

O Lord, uphold Mila by your Holy Spirit. Give her the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Mila, child of the covenant, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit in baptism, and marked as Christ's own forever. Amen.

God who began a good work in you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. Amen.

WELCOME

Clerk of Session:

Mila, you have been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through Baptism.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, you have become a member of the household of God, to share with us in the ministry of Christ and the priesthood of all believers. With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into the body of Christ.

Congregation:

Alleluia! Amen!

Clerk of Session:

Live as a child of the light and let your light shine before others.

Congregation:

Amen.

Minister:

The peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation:

And also with you.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Each petition will end by saying, "God of Compassion, **hear our prayer.**"*

Thanksgiving

THE OFFERING

***THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE #717**

For the Life That You Have Given (vs. 1)

717 For the Life That You Have Given

For the life that you have giv - en, for the love in
 Christ made known, with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these
 gifts that are your own: here we of - fer, Lord, our prais - es;
 heart and mind and strength we bring: give us grace to
 love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of six systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

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

Receive these gifts, O God. May our lives be an offering that is pleasing to you, good gifts that come from the knowledge of life in Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Sending Us into the World

*HYMN #41

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

41 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!
2 O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,
3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
4 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?
5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love:
whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space,
Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old;
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
whose char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form;
es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
it streams from the hills; it de - scends to the plain,
your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.
and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

***THE BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION #48**

Rain Down

48

Capo 3: (D) (F#7) (Bm) (D7) (G)
F A7 Dm F7 Bb

Rain down; rain down; rain down your
love on your peo - ple. Rain down; rain
down; rain down your love, God of life.

(D/F#) (Em7) (A7) (D) (F#7) (Bm)
F/A Gm7 C7 F A7 Dm

(D7) (G) (Em) (A7) (G) (D)
F7 Bb Gm C7 Bb F

This refrain comes from a longer song based on Psalm 33, but the striking image of God's love falling like rain is not actually present in that psalm. That image may be based on Ezekiel 34:26, where God promises to send showers of blessing upon the people of the covenant.

TEXT: Jaime Cortez, 1991
MUSIC: Jaime Cortez, 1991; arr. John Carter, 2001
Text and Music © 1992 Jaime Cortez (Published by OCP)

RAIN DOWN
Irregular

THE POSTLUDE

Processional Rigaudon (A. Campra)

Kind gestures in honor of Mila Zoey Doodnauth's Baptism

The Fellowship Hour, hosted by the Doodnauth family.
The flowers gracing our sanctuary were placed by great-grandmothers,
Ruby Durgana and Sylvin Lalchand.

Regular Activities

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

Wednesday Morning Bible Study at 11 am

Rev. Chris' Congregational Call - Every Thursday at 11 am

Phone Number:
978-990-5000

Access Code:
533696#

Prayer Shawl Ministry – Thursdays, 7-9 pm

Men's Breakfast & Ladies Breakfast, 1st Saturday of the month at 9 am
(break in July and August)

Sunday Bible Study - 9:00 am

Session meeting every 3rd Sunday of the month

Choir practice: 1st and last Sunday of the Month at 9:30 am

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

Friendly Reminders

Per capita for 2022 is \$40.00

Did You Know?

Did you know that FPreslselin's garden (located by the Montessori school) provides fresh vegetables for our food pantry recipients? John Lillie and Sara Schweitzer have been cutting the grass and weeding the flower beds as the vegetables grow; however, they need help. John said they just need someone (or many) to come in once a week, on a Saturday (if they work during the week) to cut the grass and weed. A schedule can be set so that each person picks the Saturday they are available. We would love your help in this important effort! Please connect with Sue Ramirez at susanlmartin5@gmail.com.

Our Mission Statement



We are a friendly, multi-cultural congregation that welcomes all to worship with us as we glorify our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; sing praises to God, the Father; and let the Holy Spirit guide our footsteps. As faithful witnesses to our Christian beliefs, we dedicate ourselves to worship, stewardship and discipleship. We will always endeavor to nurture the youth in our congregation to grow in their commitment to God and the Church and to become active participants in the life and work of the Church.

We commit ourselves to evangelism and mission to spread the good news of Jesus Christ to all people in a variety of ways in our

community and beyond.

We will continue to be open to God's presence, leading us into new pathways of ministry and service for the betterment of the community and to the glory of Jesus Christ our Savior.

-ratified by congregational vote, January 27, 2008

Dear Members and Guests, if you'd like to know more information about the latest news,



Visit our website www.1stpresbyterianiselin.org using your mobile device, scan QR Code. To participate with us on social media, "Like" us on Facebook & Instagram, or follow us on Twitter, @FPresIselinNJ

Cover image: Good Samaritan by He Qi