

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ISELIN

Minds, hearts, hands and voices in Christ

Service and Message by: Rev. Chris Houtz

Liturgist: Kate Evans Scott

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

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR THE PROMISE

PRELUDE

Alaine Bolton, Director of Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kate Evans Scott, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT (2x)

Jesus, We Are Here
Gathering

Words and Music by
Patrick Matsikenyiri

D A Em/A
Je - sus, we are here, Je - sus,
Je - su ta - wa pa - no, Je - su

D/A Dmaj7 D D7 G
we are here, Je - sus, we are here,
ta - wa pa - no, Je - su ta - wa pa - no,

D/A A9 A7 1. D Em7/A
we are here _____ for _____ you.
ta - wa pa - no mu zi - ta re

2. D Em7/A D Em7/A rit. D
Mam-bo Je - su nyu. _____

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

Kate Evans Scott

Your creation gives thanks to you, O God.

And we, your faithful, bless you.

We shall speak of the glory of your realm and tell of your power.

We shall let all people know your mighty deeds and glorious splendor.

Lord, you are faithful in all your words, gracious in all your deeds.

You are near to all who call on you, all who call you in truth.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,

And your dominion endures throughout all generations.

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

Kate Evans Scott

Eternal God, protector of all who put their trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Fill us with your mercy and your grace, that, with you to rule and guide, we may so use the good things of this present life that we do not neglect those of eternal worth; 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 #8**

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Kate Evans Scott

Let us confess to our God, for the Lord is just in all his ways and kind in all his doings. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Kate Evans Scott

God, you uphold those who are falling and raise up all who are bowed down. Therefore we confess our sins—both things we have done and things we have left undone—in every confidence that you will open your hands to us in an embrace of forgiveness and love.

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

The river of God's mercy runs deeper and wider than our sin. God removes our sin as far as the heavens are above the earth. Beloved in the risen Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

*** THE RESPONSE #633**

Praise Ye the Lord (refrain only)

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Please pass the peace to others by waving or saying "Peace be with you.")

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Chris Houtz

ANTHEM

Above All (LeBlanc and Baloché, arr. Hayes)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, may this your Word give us the power to comprehend, with all the saints, the length and width, the height and depth of the love of Christ and fullness of life in you. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ephesians 3:14-21

Kate Evans Scott

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶ I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷ and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸ I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

2 Kings 4:42-44

Rev. Chris Houtz

⁴² A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." ⁴³ But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the Lord, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" ⁴⁴ He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the Lord.

John 6:1-13

Rev. Chris Houtz

6 After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ² A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³ Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴ Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵ When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶ He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷ Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁸ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹ "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" ¹⁰ Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹ Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹² When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³ So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets.

THE MESSAGE

The Abundance of God

Rev. Chris Houtz

*HYMN #36

For the Fruit of All Creation

***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

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 #608**

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

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

We rejoice with thanksgiving for all we have received. Multiply these gifts that we have given so that the world may more deeply know fullness of life in you. Amen.

***HYMN #643**

Now Thank We All Our God

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION (2x)

Go with God

Rom. 8:14
Departing/Benediction

Words and Music by
Isaiah Jones, Jr.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb) and a common time signature (C). It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Go with God. Go with God. As you leave this place, go with God. God will direct your way, God will light ev - 'ry day. As you leave this place, go with God." The chords are: F, Bb, Eb, Dm7, G7, Cm, Eb/F, F, Bb, Eb/F, Bb, Bb7/D, Ebmaj7, Cm7, Bb/F, F7, Bb, (Eb/F).

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THE POSTLUDE

Friendly Reminders!

Margarita Estrada Vacation Days
Friday, August 6th and Friday, August 27th

India Independence Day and Flag Hoisting Ceremony
Saturday, August 14th in the church parking lot.
All are welcome!

Next Session Meeting, Sunday, August 15th

Per Capita Apportionment for 2021 is \$40.45
As of 6/28/21, 42 members have reimbursed the church for per capita responsibilities! Thank you!

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

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

Prayer Shawl Ministry
Tuesdays at 2 pm

Wednesdays – Bible Study in Fellowship Hall at 11 am

Rev. Chris' Congregational Call
Every Thursday at 11 am

Men's Breakfast – 1st Saturday of the month at 8 am.

Sunday Bible Study
9:00 am

Session 'in-person' meeting every 3rd Sunday of the month

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

Cover graphic: <http://stuffyo>