

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ISELIN

Mind, hearts, hands and voices in Christ

Minister: Rev. Chris Houtz

Liturgist: Andrea Harrison

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

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

Sunday, August 15, 2021

10:30 A.M.

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR THE PROMISE

PRELUDE

Alaine Bolton, Director of Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Andrea Harrison, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT (2x)

Jesus, We Are Here
Gathering

Words and Music by
Patrick Matsikenyiri

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 four staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chords are indicated above the notes. The lyrics are: 'Je - sus, we are here, Je - sus, Je - su ta - wa pa - no, Je - su we are here, Je - sus, we are here, ta - wa pa - no, we are here for you. ta - wa pa - no mu zi - ta re Mam-bo Je - su nyu.' The score includes first and second endings and a ritardando (rit.) marking.

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

Andrea Harrison, Liturgist

The God of wisdom sent Jesus Christ, the bread of life.

He teaches us his ways, feeds us with his flesh and blood.

He fills us with the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God!

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

Andrea Harrison, Liturgist

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts. Give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that all people may know the glorious liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*** HYMN #652**

A Grateful Heart

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Andrea Harrison, Liturgist

Let us confess our sins to the all-wise God who is gracious and merciful and keeps covenant with us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Andrea Harrison, Liturgist

All-knowing God, we are your children, but we have turned away from your wisdom and walked in our own ways. We have lived carelessly and squandered time. We have been foolish and failed to understand your will. We have been drunk with the wine of this world and debauched in our own desires. Purge us from evil and fill us with your Spirit. Clear our minds from clutter that we may discern what is right and walk in your ways.

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 Lord is gracious and merciful! God shows great and steadfast love to us through Jesus Christ, our bread of life. By his flesh and blood our sins are forgiven and we have eternal life. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God.

*** THE RESPONSE #633**

Praise Ye the Lord (refrain)

***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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Great God of steadfast love, we study your works and delight in your ways. Illumine our understanding by your Holy Spirit, that we may reverence your name, grow in your wisdom, and discern between good and evil. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

John 6:51-58

⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

⁵² The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵ for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

²⁵ So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. ²⁶ Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸ Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹ Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹ Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³² and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. **5** ¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ² and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

THE MESSAGE

Forgiveness Offered and Received

Rev. Chris Houtz

***HYMN #754**

Help Us Accept Each Other

***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 give thanks to you, God, for sending your Son Jesus to be living bread for the world. Breathe on these gifts

***HYMN #65 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah**

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 one flat (Bb) 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 score includes various chords such as F, Bb, Eb, Dm7, G7, Cm, Eb/F, F, Bb, Eb/F, Bb, Bb7/D, Ebmaj7, Cm7, Bb/F, F7, Bb, and (Eb/F). The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

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THE POSTLUDE

Friendly Reminders!

Next Session Meeting, Today, after service

Margarita Estrada Vacation Day – Coverage will be provided.
Friday, August 27th

Men's Breakfast – None in September
August 28th at 8 am

CLEF Ladies' Breakfast – None in September
August 28th at 9 am

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 12 noon – starting next week through end of October
November, 2021, back to 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.

CLEF Ladies' Breakfast
1st Saturday of the month at 9 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