

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ISELIN

Mind, hearts, hands and voices in Christ

Minister: Rev. Chris Houtz

Liturgist: Elder Sue Ramirez

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

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

Sunday, September 19, 2021

10:30 A.M.

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR THE PROMISE

PRELUDE

Alaine Bolton, Director of Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Sue Ramirez, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT

Great and Mighty
Ps. 150
Songs of Praise
Words and Music by
Marlene Bigley

D
Great and might - y is the Lord our God,
Em7 A
Great and might - y in - deed.
Em7
Great and might - y is the Lord our God,
A G/A D Em/A D
Great and might - y in - deed. Lift up your
Em7(4) D/F#
ban-ner, let the an-thems ring; prais - es ev - er
G D C6 B7
sing! Great and might - y is the Lord our God,
Em7(4) A7 1. D G/A A 2. D
Great and might - y in - deed. deed.

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

Elder Sue Ramirez, Liturgist

Happy are the people who do not follow the advice of the wicked,

or take the path that they follow, or sit in the seat of people who make fun of others.

Their delight is in the law of the Lord,

and they meditate on God's law day and night.

The Lord watches over the way of the righteous,

but the way of the wicked will perish.

Let us worship God.

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

Elder Sue Ramirez, Liturgist

Almighty God, you created the heavens and the earth, and humankind in your image.

Teach us to discern your hand in all your works and to serve you with reverence and

thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the

unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*** HYMN #702**

Christ Be Beside Me

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Elder Sue Ramirez, Liturgist

Let us give up boasting and dishonesty, turning to the Lord with our confessions, because the one who knows us through and through has promised to renew us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Elder Sue Ramirez, Liturgist

O God, who makes known to us all truth, we confess that we are weighed down by our failings: envy distances us from other people; greed alerts us only to our own desires.

Where we might bring reconciliation, we create conflicts. Where you call us to give, we

take. Where your presence beckons, we resist. Deal with us not as we deserve, O

God, but forgive us, cleanse us, and teach us your way.

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

Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but the people who fear the Lord are to be praised.

Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and we can live in peace.

Thanks be to God.

*** THE RESPONSE #582**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines 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)

ANTHEM

As Long As I Breathe (*Sue Farrar*)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

We pray for your great wisdom, O God, to come to your people and set us free. Help us hear what the Spirit is saying to the church this day. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 11:18-20

¹⁸ It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹ But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

²⁰ But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

Mark 9:30-37

³⁰ They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” ³² But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³ Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” ³⁴ But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵ He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶ Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷ “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

THE MESSAGE

Who is Jesus Really?

Rev. Chris Houtz

***HYMN #320**

The Church of Christ in Every Age

***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 thank you for the wealth you shower on us daily, O Lord, and we witness the marvelous goodness that comes from you. Transform these gifts into signs of welcome for all who are touched by their use. Transform us into people who bless others throughout each day, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN #188 Jesus Loves Me!**

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Songs of Praise

Music: Unknown
Arr. Geoff Weaver

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah! jah!

Chord progressions are indicated above the notes: G, D/F#, Em /D, C, Am, D, G, D/F#, Em, Am7, G/D, D, G, C, G/B, Am, G, C/G, G.

THE POSTLUDE



Per Capita Apportionment for 2021 is \$40.45

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

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

Prayer Shawl Ministry - Tuesdays at 12 noon

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 meeting every 3rd Sunday of the month

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