

# TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
November 15, 2020**

**829 Salem Road - Union, New Jersey**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Clothe yourselves with faith and love;  
be confident in your salvation in Christ Jesus.  
The Lord is with us!  
Let us worship God.

## LAY LEADER

## OPENING PRAYER

God of righteousness,  
you overcome those who abuse their power  
and lift up those who suffer.  
Even now, when evil seems to hold sway,  
we know that you will have the last word.  
Keep us faithful as we wait and watch for your coming realm,  
when you will welcome all your children  
into your kingdom of justice, peace, and love. Amen.

## LAY LEADER

## OPENING HYMN #798 “All with Joyful Exultation”

## SONG LEADER

### *Refrain:*

*All with joyful exultation  
let us sing to God our praise;  
to the rock of our salvation  
loud hosannas raise.*

1 Lord, we sing with joyful voices;  
your great power can lift and save;  
by your healing touch, revive us;  
life restore beyond the grave.  
(Refrain)

2 Praise to you, our sure salvation,  
you, the Holy One above.  
End the night so dimmed by anguish,  
with your light of peace and love.  
(Refrain)

3 Change our sorrow to rejoicing;  
clothe with gladness all despair;  
cause unsteady feet that stumble  
now to dance beneath your care.  
(Refrain)

4 Dry our tears we shed in mourning;  
give us steadfast hope always;  
fill our hearts with expectation;  
fill our songs with thanks and praise.  
(Refrain)

## CALL TO CONFESSION

God has not destined us for wrath,  
but for salvation in Jesus, who died for us.  
Confident in God’s mercies,  
let us confess our sin.

## LAY LEADER

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*in unison*)

**ALL**

**Almighty God,  
you have shown us the ways of justice  
and nurtured us with love.  
Even so, we have not lived according to your will.  
When we are oppressed or unjustly accused,  
we cling to fear and forget to trust in your deliverance.  
When we are giddy with power and abuse the rights of others,  
we hold tight to our privilege and forget your laws.  
Have mercy on us, Lord,  
for we are weak and prone to disobedience.  
Hear our confession, and respond to us with kindness,  
that we might turn to you again,  
walk in the light,  
and live in equity and peace;  
through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**LAY LEADER**

Children of light,  
because we belong to our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we need not fear—  
for he lived for us, he died for us,  
he was raised for us and prays for us.  
Believe the promise of your baptism:  
in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**GLORIA PATRI**

**ALL**

**Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

**LAY LEADER**

Called to live as children of light,  
Let us build one another up  
As we share signs of peace,  
and words of love.  
The Peace of Christ be with you!

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**PASTOR**

**SCRIPTURE:** Zephaniah 1:7, 12– 18; Matthew 25:14-30

**PASTOR**

**SERMON:** *“The Times Factor”*

**PASTOR**

**HYMN #717** “For the Life That You Have Given”

**SONG LEADER**

For the life that you have given,  
for the love in Christ made known,  
with these fruits of time and labor,  
with these gifts that are your own:  
here we offer, Lord, our praises;  
heart and mind and strength we bring;  
give us grace to love and serve you,  
living what we pray and sing.

**JOYS AND CONCERNS, A TIME OF SHARING**

**PASTOR**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**PASTOR**

Let us pray for the needs of the world, saying,

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

Holy God, you welcome us into your joy  
and entrust us with your gospel.

In hope for the world to come  
and with love for the world you made,  
we offer our prayers for your church, your earth, and your people.

For your church, in this community and around the world,  
that your good news may be proclaimed to all ...

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For oppressors, that they might know justice,  
and those oppressed, that they might know peace ...

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For your creation, that we may be the caretakers you intend ...

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For the young, that they might be nurtured in love ...

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For the old, that they might be secure in your care ...

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For those who fight the demons of addiction,  
that they might find relief ...

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For those who face an early death and those they leave behind,  
that they might be comforted ...

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For all those who care for the suffering and those in their charge,  
that they would be freed from pain and fear ...

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For all of those about whom we worry  
and those whose troubles are known only to you ...

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

All this we pray with gratitude for your eternal love and extravagant grace;  
through Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

**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.**

## **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

## **LAY LEADER**

God has entrusted us with a variety of gifts;  
let us return to the Lord a generous measure of our bounty  
with thanksgiving and praise.

## OFFERTORY RESPONSE: HYMN #606

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

LAY LEADER

For all that you are and all that you do,  
we give you thanks,  
our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.  
We wait in hope for the coming of your realm  
and offer these gifts to further your kingdom on earth;  
in Jesus' name. Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN #351 "All Who Love and Serve Your City"

SONG LEADER

1 All who love and serve your city,  
all who bear its daily stress,  
all who cry for peace and justice,  
all who curse and all who bless:

2 In your day of wealth and plenty,  
wasted work and wasted play,  
call to mind the word of Jesus,  
"You must work while it is day."

3 For all days are days of judgment,  
and the Lord is waiting still,  
drawing near a world that spurns him,  
offering peace from Calvary's hill.

4 Risen Lord, shall yet the city  
be the city of despair?  
Come today, our judge, our glory.  
Be its name "The Lord is there!"

## BENEDICTION

PASTOR

## POSTLUDE

### A Note from Our Treasurer:

Please continue to **mail your weekly offerings** to the church office. **Bill Pay and other online banking options** should also be considered. Online contributions may be made through our church's website "Give Now" button:



Our church's Donation Page can also be reached using the Quick Response (QR) Code below. A QR Code is a two-dimensional, modular barcode that, when scanned by a smart phone (most phones use the camera to do this) will connect you to our Donation Page.



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

22 Edna Bailey

**"TIME FOR PRAYER" -- 6:00 PM on Wednesdays**  
**Praying by teleconference.** All may call in to pray and/or make  
prayer requests: Dial-in using your phone:  
1 717-275-8940 Access code: 367 0530