

TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Proper 23

October 11, 2020

829 Salem Road - Union, New Jersey

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

LAY LEADER

The Lord is good!
God's steadfast love endures forever.

OPENING PRAYER

LAY LEADER

Ever present God,
you never leave us.
Help us to stay with you when we are tempted to flee,
and keep us seeking after that which is true,
that all may know that you are the Lord, our God,
a tenacious presence in whatever our reality.
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

OPENING HYMN #716 "God Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

SONG LEADER

CALL TO CONFESSION

LAY LEADER

We and our ancestors have sinned.
Our ancestors exchanged the glory of God
for the image of a golden calf.
They forgot God, their Savior,
who had done great things in Egypt.
While our means are different,
our compulsions are the same.
Let us confess our brokenness,
for God is merciful and just
and will forgive us our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

ALL

**Holy God, you are the Lord our God,
who brought us out of the land of Egypt,
out of the house of slavery.**

**And yet our trust in you is fragile,
easily crushed by our bent toward indifference—
the dismissal of your faithfulness
as a result of our forgetfulness.**

**Our trust is fragile,
easily broken by the slightest pause—
an answer to prayer not instantly given,
a request for peace not immediately felt.**

**Our trust is fragile,
easily displaced by gods of our own making—
the god of self-sufficiency, chased at any cost,
the god of illusion, pursued in any form.**

**Lord, have mercy on us,
through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Beloved, hear the good news:
Jesus Christ came
to stand in the breach
to reconcile us to God.
We are forgiven and freed!

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

Renewed through the gifts of God's Spirit,
let us share our visions and dreams of peace
by exchanging signs of Christ's peace with one another.
The Peace of Christ be with you!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Rev. Chris
Belden**

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 5:1-7; Matthew 21:33–46

**Rev. Chris
Belden**

SERMON:

**Rev. Chris
Belden**

HYMN #824 *“There is a Place of Quiet Rest”*

SONG LEADER

JOYS AND CONCERNS, A TIME OF SHARING

PASTOR

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

PASTOR

Mothering God,
you never abandon your children;
your steadfast love endures forever,
your faithfulness throughout the generations.

We pray for those in our world whose trust has been broken
through exploitation by people in power
or abuse by those in intimate circles.

We pray for those whose trust has been broken
through abandonment by those who promised to stay
or manipulation by those who refuse to let go.

We pray for those whose trust has been broken
through cold comfort in times of affliction
or callous rebukes of those on the margins.

We pray for those whose trust has been broken
through the trauma of war
or the chaos of assault.

Empower us, your body,
to enfold and protect those broken in body, mind, or spirit,
through your all-embracing grace.

We make our prayer in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who taught us to say when
we 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,**

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

**but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

LAY LEADER

Beloved, do not worry about anything,
but in everything let your requests be made known to God.
And the peace of God, which passes all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
In the assurance of this promise,
let us confidently offer ourselves to God,
knowing that God has already provided all that we need.

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

Creator God, you are our provider.
We offer all that we have
and all that we are to you,
because we belong to you.
Bless these gifts, and empower us, your church,
that through the work of your Spirit
we may be a refuge for the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the storm,
and a shade from the heat.
Through Christ, our shield and our stronghold. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #644 “Give Thanks, O Christian People”

SONG LEADER

BENEDICTION

**Rev. Chris
Belden**

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.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10 Pastor John Santiago
19 Bill Jensen
26 Bob Deller

"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