

TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Proper 22

October 4, 2020

829 Salem Road - Union, New Jersey

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

LAY LEADER

The heavens declare the glory of God!
The skies proclaim God's handiwork.
The day pronounces God's glory without a sound,
the night expounds God's knowledge without a word,
and yet their voice goes out through all the earth.
Let us join our voices with the voice of creation in declaring God's glory!

OPENING PRAYER

LAY LEADER

Creator God,
the heavens radiate your glory!
You have set a tent for the sun,
which comes out like a joyful bridegroom from his wedding canopy.
May we emerge from night's waiting with such rampant joy
that we too radiate your glory throughout this day.
In the name of the Son of righteousness
who has risen with healing in his wings. Amen.

OPENING HYMN #838 "Standing on the Promises"

SONG LEADER

CALL TO CONFESSION

LAY LEADER

Let us boldly confess our sin
before the One who already knows our errors
and is gracious to forgive our hidden faults.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

ALL

**Rescuing God,
you brought us out of the land of captivity,
out of the house of slavery.**

**Forgive us when we willingly return to slavery,
making divine the machine of production,
crafting idols from the excess of consumption.**

**Forgive us when we consider ourselves so grand
that we do not rest and enjoy your presence,
defining ourselves by our ability rather than your love.**

**Forgive us when we esteem ourselves so little
that we dare not rest and sit with ourselves, exposed,
without the cloak of productivity.**

**Forgive us when we deem our species so central
that we do not rest and halt consumption, decimating Earth,
denying her Sabbath and integrity.**

**Forgive us through Christ,
who redeems us from the brokenness of slavery
that we might enjoy your presence, creation, and community. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

LAY LEADER

Righteousness does not come from our own doing or not doing.
Righteousness comes from God, by faith.
Through the faithfulness of Christ, our Lord,
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

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

PASTOR

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

PASTOR

SERMON: *"Accounting 101"*

PASTOR

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

HYMN #138 “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

SONG LEADER

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from “A Brief Statement of Faith”

PASTOR

In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ,
Fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

JOYS AND CONCERNS, A TIME OF SHARING

PASTOR

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

PASTOR

O Lord our God,
so much seems to be wrong in your vineyard.
You gift us with space and work,
fellow tenants and an abundant harvest,
but we too often refuse to recognize the joy of your call
and the beauty of your creation.

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

We want more or other, better or bigger,
that which belongs to you or our neighbors.
We injure those you send to correct and restore us.
We refuse to heed your life-giving law
and even attempt to silence the Word made flesh.

Help us, holy One,
to treasure the gifts you give us,
tend the resources you entrust to us
and work to heal the hurt we so readily inflict.

O Lord our God,
hear our cries of lament for the injustice so rampant in your world.
You came to release the captives and set the oppressed free.
You weep when your prophets are killed and your call to repent unheard.
Grant us the courage to be repairers of the breach,
those who restore our city streets.
Bring justice.
Bring peace.
Make us embodiments of your perfect love that casts out fear.

O Lord our God,
silence in us any voice but yours.
As the chorus of divisive rhetoric rings in our ears
and hate-filled speech gets amplified,
send your Spirit to give your people
the right words at the right time
to proclaim good news for all people.
Do not let us remain silent
when we are called to give voice to your will.
Do not let us open our mouths
when our words do not reflect the Word of grace and truth.

O Lord our God,
open our eyes to see you present, at work,
creating a future where all your children
are valued, respected, fed and free
to fulfill with joy your purposes for them.
Give us a holy imagination that enables us
to envision your vision and dream your dreams
with such tenacity that we cannot help but enact your will.

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

O Lord our God,
break our hearts in ways that move us to compassion,
enliven our empathy and help us emulate the love of Christ.
May those who feel dismissed know of your delight in them.
May those who feel lonely know of your presence with them.
May those who feel despair know your resurrection hope.
May those who feel shattered by this time and current events know your healing power.
May we, your body, the church,
be made through the work of the Spirit the answer to the prayers of your people.

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

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

LAY LEADER

Straining forward to what lies ahead,
let us offer ourselves to God.

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

As the bride offers all that she is
and all that she has to her bridegroom,

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

so we offer ourselves to you, our heavenly bridegroom.
May these offerings increase our joy
and reflect your glory. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PASTOR

Come to Christ's table,
and Christ's presence will be revealed.
As we break the bread and take the cup,
let us discover what Christ will bring us this day.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Responsively*)

PASTOR

God is here.
God's Spirit is with us.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to God.
Let us give thanks to God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise

We give thanks to you, creating God,
breath of all being;
the earth is yours and all that is in it,
and all who dwell therein.
You founded it upon the seas
and made it firm upon the deep.
You planted seeds in fertile ground,
to rise and sing your praise.
Glory to you forever.

You formed us from the earth
and planted goodness in our souls,
that we might love like you.
You called us to live your law of harmony
and to long for your commands.
Yet, when our disordered cravings bowed down our spirit,
you did not leave us low,
but bent down to meet us and grow us up again.

Therefore we lift our voices in thanksgiving,
for you have wondrously made us.
By water and your life-giving Spirit,
you have more wondrously remade us

to join the song of all creation
and forever sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of goodness and life,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We give you thanks, O God,
that you sowed your Word in Jesus,
to grow your kingdom here on earth
and draw us ever near.

Jesus planted mercy wherever he went,
to reap a greater righteousness.
He shared bread with outcasts and sinners
and healed the brokenhearted.

Glory to you forever.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us
Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, gave to his friends, and said,
Take, eat, this is my body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing,
gave it to his friends, and said,
Drink this, all of you:
this cup is the new covenant in my blood,
poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Glory to you forever.

Remembering his dying and rising,
we offer you this bread and wine,
and ourselves in grateful service.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
and all your people here today.
Breathe your Spirit over all creation
that together we may cultivate peace
in every corner of the world.

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

Then bring us to that blessed mountain
where with the meek and pure in heart
we will live forever in blessedness
as we taste the fruits of heaven.

Glory to you forever.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Life-giving Spirit,
we worship you, Creating God,
in songs of endless praise.

Blessed are you, now and forever. **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

ELDERS

BENEDICTION

PASTOR

CLOSING HYMN #650 “O Beauty Ever Ancient”

SONG LEADER

TOWNLEY BOOK CLUB: Our next book is *Dutch Girl: Audrey Hepburn and World War II*
by *Robert Matzen*.



Weather permitting, we will meet outside on the church lawn (bring a chair) otherwise we will meet via Zoom to discuss on Monday, October 5, 2020 at 11:00 am for approximately 1 – 1 ½ hours. At the end of that meeting we will be looking for suggestions for our next book, date and time. Please let me know if you are interested. Hope to hear from you! Cecelia Harrison

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