

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Northampton Presbyterian Church

*“Native American Sunday”  
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost*

*September 10, 2023*

*10:00 AM*

Native American Day is celebrated in the Presbyterian Church, USA on September 22nd or 23rd (Fall Equinox) and may be celebrated on a Sunday before or after or on another appropriate day. Since 1994, Native American Day has appeared on the Presbyterian Calendar as the day to recognize and celebrate the contributions of Native Americans to the life of the church and community.

## **PRELUDE**

*Hidatsa Garden Song*

Keith Bear

# WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sharing Session: “Southwest Sally, part 1” by Pastor Judy today following the worship service.
- Sharing Session: “Southwest Sally, part 2 / follow-up” by Pastor Judy, Tuesday (9/12) at 3 PM.
- Men’s Breakfast, Wednesday (9/13) at 8:30 PM at Robin Hood.
- Homecoming Sunday Potluck, Next Sunday (9/17) following the worship service.

# RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

*An Acknowledgement of the Local Pre-Colonial People*

ONE: Creator God, thank you for the Lenape people.

**MANY: It is a good gift that we can come and meet on their lands.**

ONE: Forgive us, those of us who are immigrants to and settlers in this country, for so often forgetting that we are guests of the First Nations people of North America.

**MANY: Help us to live on these lands with respect.**

ONE: We pray for the Lenape people today.

**MANY: Creator God, hear our prayers.**

ONE: May we dwell in unity with them.

**MANY: Creator God, hear our prayers.**

ONE: May their remaining sacred lands be honored and protected.

**MANY: Creator God, hear our prayers.**

ONE: May you bless their efforts to revitalize their language and their culture.

**MANY: Creator God, hear our prayers.**

ONE: May all the Lenape people know that they are loved by a good and powerful Creator.

**MANY: Creator God, hear our prayers.**

ONE: Creator of every tribe, nation and tongue:

**MANY: May you richly bless the Lenape people. Amen.**

# **HYMN**

*Heleluyan, We Are Singing*

*HELELUYAN*

**Heleluyan, we are singing. Hele, heleluyan.**

**Heleluyan, now and always. Hele, heleluyan.**

**Christians everywhere shall sing now and always:**

**Hele, heleluyan.**

**Christians everywhere shall sing now and always:**

**Hele, heleluyan.**

**Heleluyan, we are singing. Hele, heleluyan.  
Heleluyan, now and always. Hele, heleluyan.**

**Town and country people sing to Jesus:  
Hele, heleluyan.**

**Town and country people sing to Jesus:  
Hele, heleluyan.**

**Heleluyan, we are singing. Hele, heleluyan.  
Heleluyan, now and always. Hele, heleluyan.**

**People far and near will join the chorus:  
Hele, heleluyan.**

**People far and near will join the chorus:  
Hele, heleluyan.**

**Heleluyan, we are singing. Hele, heleluyan.  
Heleluyan, now and always. Hele, heleluyan.**



# RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ONE: Creator and Redeemer, as we approach you in prayer, make us walk in beauty and balance. Make us open our hearts and minds. Make us speak the truth. We pray first for your Community, the Church, the Body of Christ. We pray for all our relatives in the circle of life throughout all Creation. For those chosen to be our leaders, in peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

**MANY: O God of mercy, we lament that even good actions of reform and renewal have often had unintended negative consequences.**

ONE: We bring before you the burdens of the guilt of the past when our forbearers did not follow your will that all be one in the truth of the gospel.

**MANY: Teach us and show us the way.**

ONE: We confess our own ways of thinking and acting that perpetuate the divisions of the past. As communities and as individuals, we build many walls around us: mental, spiritual, physical and political walls that result in discrimination and violence. Forgive us, Lord.

**MANY: Teach us and show us the way.**

ONE: Christ is our peace, who breaks down the walls that divide, who gives us, through the Holy Spirit, ever-new beginnings.

**MANY: Teach us and show us the way.**

ONE: In Christ, we receive forgiveness and we are strengthened for a faithful and common witness in our time.

**MANY: Teach us and show us the way.**

(We pause now to add our own prayers silently.)

ONE: Creator, you made the world and declared it to be good: The beauty of the trees, the softness of the air, the fragrance of the grass speaks to us; The summit of the mountains, the thunder of the sky, the rhythm of the lakes speaks to us; The faintness of the stars, the freshness of the morning, the dewdrops on the flower speak to us. But above all, our heart soars, for you speak to us in your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we offer these prayers. Amen.

# **RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

ONE: As a community let us embrace the ongoing work of being reconciled.

**MANY: God makes peace within us. Let us claim it.**

ONE: God makes peace between us. Let us sing of it boldly!

# HYMN

*Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*      *GLORY TO GOD*

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

*Romans 13:8-14*

**SERMON**

*Now Is the Moment*

Rev. Judith A. Dwyer

# HYMN

*This Path We Walk*

*O WALY WALY*

**This path we walk, through joy and tears,  
A living Way of faith and fears,  
Through each step's risk, each sorrow's pain,  
When walked in love, we'll rise again.**

**When life is shared, together, free  
We'll grow to be all we can be:  
A circle wide will call us home,  
When wrapped in love, we're not alone.**

**These gifts we bring, this light we hold,  
Our songs of grace, our stories told,  
Remain un-done, told just in part,  
Till shared in love, and known by heart.**

**When life is shared, together bound,  
God's richest gifts, together found;  
Together walk the Spirit's Way  
When love's the guide, we shall not stray.**



**This life we share, a blessing deep;  
A promised gift, now ours to keep.  
God grant our words were spoken true,  
Now clothed in life, each day anew.**

# **OFFERING SENTENCE**

*(Scan the QR Code to give online →)*



# **OFFERTORY**

*Many and Great, O God, Are Thy Works*

LACQUIPARLE

**Many and great, O God, are thy works, maker of earth and sky.  
Thy hands have set the heavens with stars;  
Thy fingers spread the mountains and plains.  
Lo, at thy word the waters were formed. Deep seas obey thy voice.  
Grant unto us communion with thee, thou star-abiding One.  
Come unto us and dwell with us.  
With thee are found the gifts of life.  
Bless us with life that has no end, eternal life with thee.**

# **DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

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

# **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

# HYMN

*The Sweet By and By*

*SWEET BY AND BY*

**There's a land that is fairer than day,**

**And by faith we can see it afar,**

**For the Father waits over the way**

**To prepare us a dwelling place there.**

**In the sweet by and by,**

**We shall meet on that beautiful shore;**

**In the sweet by and by,**

**We shall meet on that beautiful shore.**

*We shall sing on that beautiful shore  
The melodious songs of the blest;  
And our spirits shall sorrow no more  
Not a sigh for the blessing of rest.*

*In the sweet by and by,  
We shall meet on that beautiful shore;  
In the sweet by and by,  
We shall meet on that beautiful shore.*

**To our bountiful Father above  
We will offer our tribute of praise  
For the glorious gift of His love  
And the blessings that hallow our days.**

**In the sweet by and by,  
We shall meet on that beautiful shore;  
In the sweet by and by,  
We shall meet on that beautiful shore.**



# RESPONSIVE BLESSING

ONE: God is before us.

**MANY: God is behind us.**

ONE: God is above us.

**MANY: God is below us.**

ONE: God's words shall come from our mouths.

**MANY: For we are all God's essence, a sign of God's love.**

ONE: All is finished in beauty.

**MANY: All is finished in beauty. Amen.**

# **POSTLUDE**

*Shawnee Traveling Song*

Traditional Shawnee  
as used by the Shawnee Nation  
United Remnant Band

The indigenous people who inhabited the land that became Philadelphia were the Lenape (also Lenni Lenape: their English moniker was “Delaware”); they were displaced by Quakers and other religious minorities that settled the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in the late 17th and 18th centuries. The Lenape, also known as the Delaware Indians, are indigenous people of the Northeastern Woodlands, which includes Pennsylvania. They inhabited the land that became Philadelphia for centuries before the Europeans arrived.

The Lenape were divided into three bands or sub-tribes: the Minsi (or Munsee, “People of the Stone Country”) inhabited the northern part of Pennsylvania, the Unami (“People Who Live Down-River”) inhabited the central region of Pennsylvania, and the Unalachtigo (“People Who Live by the Ocean”) inhabited the southern area of Pennsylvania.

The Lenape who inhabited the land that became Philadelphia spoke the Unami dialect. Due to their heavy tillage of the land, the soils they farmed gradually lost their productivity. As a result, Lenape frequently relocated. Generally, an occupied area lost its usefulness in two decades’ time. Thus, the native people constantly set up, abandoned, and resettled communities throughout Pennsylvania.

Today, the Cultural Center and Trading Post of the Lenape Nation in Pennsylvania is located in the Bachmann Publick House at 160 Northampton Street in Easton.

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Walter Licht, Mark Frazier Lloyd, J.M. Duffin, & Mary D. McConaghy, “The Original People and Their Land: The Lenape, Pre-History to the 18th Century,” West Philadelphia Collaborative History, <https://collaborativehistory.gse.upenn.edu>. ©2023 Penn GSE. Accessed 08/16/2023.

## WORSHIP NOTES:

The **Prelude** is from *Earthlodge*, a CD of Native American songs that were sung in the lodges in winter and spring, then taken outside in the summer and shared with the rest of the village. The Hidatsa Garden Song was sung at sunrise as the planters went down to the river to plant. Recorded in a reconstructed earth lodge along the Missouri River at the on-A-Slant Village south of Mandan, ND by Makoche Recording Studios.

The **Call to Worship** is adapted from a prayer posted on the InterVarsity Multiethnic Ministries Page under the heading, “A Simple Land Acknowledgement for Opening Prayers.” <https://mem.intervarsity.org>. Accessed 08/19/2023. 2023 InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA®

The **Prayer of Confession** is adapted from a prayer in the Indigenous People's Liturgical Celebration created by Kelly Sherman-Conroy, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe in Pine Ridge, South Dakota. Posted by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. [ELCA-AIAN\\_Liturgy\\_Conroy\\_pdf.pdf](#) Accessed 08/18/2023.

The lyrics to the **Sermon Hymn**, “This Path We Walk,” were written by S. Curtis Tufts a United Church minister in Spruce Grove Alberta. Words ©S. Curtis Tufts – April 2016. <https://united-church.ca>

The **Blessing** is from the Navajo prayer tradition and published in *Voices: Native American Hymns and Worship Resources*.

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