

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Northampton Presbyterian Church

*“Simple Gifts Worship”  
Eighth Sunday After Pentecost*

*July 23, 2023*

*10:00 AM*

# PRELUDE

*It Is Well with My Soul*

Rogers

# WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Women's Breakfast at Manny's, Wednesday (7/26) at 9 AM.
- Pastor Judy will be on vacation July 23rd—30th.

# RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We gather in the name of the living Christ to worship God.

**MANY: Surely, God is in this place and calls us to worship in spirit and in truth.**

ONE: God's love is for you and for all people everywhere.

**MANY: That we may share God's love and life, may we be renewed in the refreshing Spirit of the living Christ.**

ONE: The living Christ is with us.

**MANY: Praise the Lord!**

# HYMN

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

**Come, thou Fount of every blessing;  
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
Sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
Mount of God's unchanging love!**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
Hither by thy help I'm come;  
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.**

**Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wandering from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
Interposed his precious blood.**

**O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart; O take and seal it;  
Seal it for thy courts above.**

# PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## READER'S THEATER

*Genesis 28:10-19a (Jacob at Bethel)*

ANGEL: Jacob left and his first night away from home he had a dream.

JACOB: I saw a stairway set on the ground with its top reaching heaven. God's angels were going up and down on it.

VOICE OF GOD: I am Yahweh, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your offspring the land that you are now sleeping on.

**ALL: Your offspring will be like the dust of the earth,**

VOICE OF GOD: And you will spread out toward the west, the east, the north, and the south.

**ALL: All the peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring.**

VOICE OF GOD: Look, I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go. I will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.

JACOB: Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it. What an awesome place this is! This is none other than the house of God. This is the gate of heaven.

ANGEL: Early in the morning Jacob took the stone that was near his head and set it up as a marker. He poured oil on top of it.



JACOB: I name this place Bethel.

ANGEL: Then Jacob made a vow with three conditions

JACOB: If God will be with me and watch over me on this journey, if He provides me with food to eat and clothing to wear, and if I return safely to my father's house, then the Lord will be my God. This stone that I have set up as a marker will be God's house, (looking toward heaven) and I will give to You a tenth of all that You give me.

ANGEL: This is the word of the Lord!

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

# **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

*Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43*

## **SERMON**

Rev. Brenton Thompson

# HYMN

*We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder*

*SPIRITUAL*

**We are climbing Jacob's ladder,**

**We are climbing Jacob's ladder,**

**We are climbing Jacob's ladder,**

**Soldiers of the cross.**

**Ev'ry round goes higher, higher,  
Ev'ry round goes higher, higher,  
Ev'ry round goes higher, higher,  
Soldiers of the cross.**

**Children, do you love my Jesus?  
Children, do you love my Jesus?  
Children, do you love my Jesus?  
Soldiers of the cross.**

**If you love Him, why not serve Him?**

**If you love Him, why not serve Him?**

**If you love Him, why not serve Him?**

**Soldiers of the cross.**

**Rise, shine, give God glory,**

**Rise, shine, give God glory,**

**Rise, shine, give God glory,**

**Soldiers of the cross.**

## **THE OFFERING**

*(Scan the QR Code to give online →)*



**MUSICAL MEDITATION** *(Andy Chen, trumpet & Trish Conover, piano):*

*Grace Greater Than Our Sin*

arr. Lloyd Larson

# **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

*Nearer, My God, to Thee*

*BETHANY*

**Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!  
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me;  
Still all my song shall be,  
Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee.**

**Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down,  
Darkness be over me, my rest a stone;  
Yet in my dreams I'd be  
Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee.**

**There let the way appear, steps unto heav'n;  
All that thou sendest me in mercy giv'n;  
Angels to beckon me  
Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee.**

**Then, with my waking thoughts bright with Thy praise,  
Out of my stony griefs, Bethel I'll raise;  
So by my woes to be  
Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee.**

**Or if on joyful wing, cleaving the sky,  
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I fly,  
Still all my song shall be  
Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee.**

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

arr. Lani Smith

We welcome **Rev. Brenton Thompson** to our pulpit this morning.

Brenton is the Director of Congregational Resourcing for the Presbytery of Philadelphia. He has a breadth and depth of experience in the church which includes not only congregational ministry, but service to the larger denomination as a Young Adult Volunteer (Northern Ireland and Ukraine), member of the Presbyterian Mission Agency board, and a corresponding member to Mission Responsibility Through Investment. Previously he served as pastor of Crossroad Presbyterian Church in Limerick, PA. A graduate of McCormick Theological Seminary, Brenton lives in Phoenixville, PA with his wife, the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson and their two daughters.

## WORSHIP NOTES:

The **Call to Worship** is posted on Life in Liturgy. <https://lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com>

The **Reader's Theater** is by Kathy Applebee © 2015 and can be found at the Fools for Christ website. <http://www.foolsforchrist.net>.

The **Prayers of the People** are adapted from "Teach Me Your Ways" by Ted Loder (*Guerillas of Grace*). Posted on **Peninsula Covenant Church** website. <http://wearepcc.com>

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