

WORSHIP SERVICE

Northampton Presbyterian Church

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Homecoming Sunday

September 18, 2022

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

Adoration

Florence S. Price

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Session Meeting, Tuesday (9/20) at 7 PM.
- “Bible Study for Everyone” with Pastor Judy (In-Person & Zoom), Wednesday (9/21) at 11 AM. Participant resources are available at www.northamptonpresby.org/bible-study
- Christian Life Groups begin next Sunday (9/25) at 11:30 AM.

UNISON CALL TO WORSHIP

(inspired by Psalm 113)

Let us praise the name of the Lord. God is wonderful! Yesterday, today and forever! The Lord our God has done marvelous things. We are blessed more than we could ever imagine. For all the amazing gifts we have been given, we praise the name of the Lord! Amen!

HYMN

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

**Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice,
Before his throne rejoice;
Praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!**

Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!

Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!

He is our guide and friend;

To us he'll condescend;

His love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen!

Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!

On heaven's blissful shore

His goodness we'll adore,

Singing forevermore, Alleluia! Amen!

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we want to have our cake and eat it, too: we want to be a friend of the world and still be your friend. Yet, Jesus taught us: “No one can serve two masters.” Give us strength and courage to get our priorities straight: help us to seek your kingdom first. Help us to live faithfully and joyfully in the world, and to be friends with the people you call us to serve. Help us also to remember that our best relationship is the one we have with you. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(We pause for a moment of silent, personal confession.)

RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: Do not fear! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, and we are given a new way to live. Let us accept God's grace, and live new lives of faith, obedience, and joy.

MANY: Amen!

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

READER'S THEATER

Luke 16:1-13

SERMON

Coming to Terms with the Future

Rev. Judith A. Dwyer

HYMN

Help Us Accept Each Other

BARONITA

**Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
Teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
We are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.**

**Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
We struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
To love them as we find them, or as they may become.**

**Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
In living situations to do the truth in love;
To practice your acceptance until we know by heart
The table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.**

**Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
Who hunger for acceptance, for justice and for bread,
We need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on:
Renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us; make us one!**

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY *(Choir)*

Dona Nobis Pacem

DOXOLOGY

**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.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

HYMN

I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table

WELCOME TABLE

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table, Alleluia

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table, Alleluia

**I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus;
I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus, Alleluia
I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus;
I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus, Alleluia**

**I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers;
I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers, Alleluia
I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers;
I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers, Alleluia**

**Here all the world will find a welcome;
Here all the world will find a welcome, Alleluia
Here all the world will find a welcome;
Here all the world will find a welcome, Alleluia**

**We're gonna feast on milk and honey;
We're gonna feast on milk and honey, Alleluia
We're gonna feast on milk and honey;
We're gonna feast on milk and honey, Alleluia**

RESPONSIVE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

ONE: May God help us to change.

MANY: To change ourselves and to change our world.

ONE: To know the need for it.

MANY: To deal with the pain of it.

ONE: To feel the joy of it.

MANY: To undertake the journey without understanding the destination.

ONE: The art of gentle revolution.

MANY: Amen.

PRELUDE

Prelude in Classic Style

Gordon Young

WORSHIP NOTES:

The **Prayer of Confession** is from a worship service written by Bruce Gillette and Carolyn Winfrey Gillette for the Center for Christian Ethics. Posted on

<http://www.baylor.edu/content/services/document.php/174967.pdf>

The **Pastoral Prayer** is written by the Rev. Terri C. Pilarski and posted on WordsMatter.

<http://expansivelanguage.blogspot.ca>

The **Benediction** is written by Michael Leunig in “A Common Prayer” (1990).

<http://www.harpercollins.com.au/books/1863717404> Posted on the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand website. <http://www.presbyterian.org.nz/for-ministers/worship-resources>

Hymns are from the *Glory to God Hymnal*, The Presbyterian Publishing Corporation, Louisville, KY, 2017.

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