

# **WORSHIP SERVICE**

*Northampton Presbyterian Church*

*Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost*

*October 22, 2023*

*10:00 AM*

# PRELUDE

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

Hughes

# WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Christian Life Groups (Israel and Palestine), today following the worship service.
- Fall Adult Study, Tuesday (10/24) at 12 PM.
- Women's Breakfast at Manny's, Wednesday (10/25) at 9 AM.

# RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

*Inspired by Psalm 99*

ONE: Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord our God and King! Glorious and powerful is the God of all creation!

**MANY: In reverent awe, we gather to worship our God.**

ONE: The Lord our God is King and the Just Judge of all things for all eternity, all people and all places.

**MANY: In reverent awe, we gather to praise our God.**

ONE: The Lord our God is King and the Forgiving God! 'Fairness' and 'Justice' are the names of our God.

**MANY: In reverent awe, we gather to worship God, within the light of God's holiness, justice, mercy and love. Amen.**

# **HYMN**

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

*NICAEA*

**Holy, holy, holy!**

**Lord God Almighty!**

**Early in the morning**

**Our song shall rise to thee.**

**Holy, holy, holy!**

**Merciful and mighty!**

**God in three persons,**

**Blessed Trinity!**

**Holy, holy, holy!  
All the saints adore thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns  
Around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim  
Falling down before thee,  
Who wert, and art, and  
Evermore shalt be.**

**Holy, holy, holy!  
Though the darkness hide thee,  
Though the eye of sinfulness  
Thy glory may not see,  
Only thou art holy;  
There is none beside thee,  
Perfect in power, in  
Love and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy!**

**Lord God Almighty!**

**All thy works shall praise thy name,**

**In earth and sky and sea.**

**Holy, holy, holy!**

**Merciful and mighty!**

**God in three persons,**

**Blessed Trinity!**

# RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Inspired by Exodus 33:12-23*

ONE: We seem to have lost the ability to see glory, God; we look at money, or medals, last-person-standing triumphs, and exclusive, only-for-the-privileged-few accolades,

**MANY: And we call these glorious, forgetting how they tarnish after just a few moments.**

ONE: We have forgotten how to recognize the glory that lives in the sacrifices of a mother for whom feeding a child takes monumental effort each day;

**MANY: In the compassion of a stranger who gives his time and talent to care for sick and dying souls;**



ONE: In the humility of a well-qualified professional who uses her connections and skill to ensure the success of small projects that bring life to the least;

**MANY: In the courage of a peace-maker who stands empty-handed against tanks and bombs, or who chooses to serve and love an enemy.**

ONE: Open our eyes to the glory all around us,

**MANY: The glory of crosses and opened graves in hopeless situations;**

ONE: The glory of your presence and creativity in dark and ugly and fearful places.

**MANY: And teach us to be both heralds and couriers of this glory, so that it may be seen to cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. Amen.**

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

# **RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**ONE:** When we cry to God, looking for favor in God's sight, God answers: "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." In the power of the Spirit and in the name of Jesus, we are forgiven!

**MANY:** Thanks be to God! 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**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Isaiah 45:1-7*

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

*Matthew 22:15-22*

**SERMON**

*Living Yes-ly*

Rev. Judith A. Dwyer

# HYMN

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

*BEACH SPRING*

**God, whose giving knows no ending,  
From your rich and endless store,  
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,  
Costly cross, grave's shattered door:  
Gifted by you, we turn to you,  
Offering up ourselves in praise;  
Thankful song shall rise forever,  
Gracious donor of our days.**

**Skills and time are ours for pressing  
Toward the goals of Christ, your Son:  
All at peace in health and freedom,  
Races joined, the church made one.  
Now direct our daily labor,  
Lest we strive for self alone.  
Born with talents, make us servants  
Fit to answer at your throne.**

**Treasure, too, you have entrusted,  
Gain through powers your grace conferred:  
Ours to use for home and kindred,  
And to spread the gospel word.  
Open wide our hands in sharing,  
As we heed Christ's ageless call,  
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming,  
Serving you by loving all.**



## **OFFERING SENTENCE**

*(Scan the QR Code to give online →)*

## **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*Always in the Darkness (Your Light Shines)*



Patricia Mock

# **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**

*God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

*GREEN TYLER*

**God, be the love to search and keep me;**

**God, be the prayer to move my voice;**

**God, be the strength to now uphold me:**

**O Christ, surround me;**

**O Christ, surround me.**

**Bind to myself the Name of Holy,  
Great cloud of witnesses enfold;  
Prophets, apostles, angels witness:  
O Christ, surround me;  
O Christ, surround me.**

**Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight,  
Flashing of lightning, strength of wind,  
Depth of the sea to soil of planet:  
O Christ, surround me;  
O Christ, surround me.**

**Walking behind to hem my journey,  
Going ahead to light my way,  
And from beneath, above, and all ways:  
O Christ, surround me;  
O Christ, surround me.**

**Christ in the eyes of all who see me,  
Christ in the ears that hear my voice,  
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:  
O Christ, surround me;  
O Christ, surround me.**

# RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

**ONE:** Go now as those who have found favor in the sight of God. Be imitators of Jesus Christ and an example to all of the life of faith. To the world in which you live, give your love and service, and to God, give all that you are and all that you shall be. And may the glory of God's goodness be revealed to you; May the grace and peace of Jesus Christ take root in you; And may the inspiration of the Holy Spirit fill you with joy.

**MANY:** **We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, in the name of Christ. Amen.**

# **POSTLUDE**

*O Lord, Thou Art My God and King*

Broughton



## WORSHIP NOTES:

- The **Call to Worship** is written by Joan Stott and found in "The Timeless Psalms," RCL Psalm Year A. Copyright © 2011 Joan Stott, posted on the [Geelong City Parish UCA](#) website, used with permission.
- The **Prayer of Confession** is written by John van de Laar on his website Sacredise.com.
- The **Prayer for Illumination** is written by Amy Loving and posted on The Worship Closet. <http://worshipcloset.com/words-for-worship-18th-sunday-after-pentecost>
- The **Prayers of the People** are adapted from a prayer on the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand website. <http://www.presbyterian.org.nz/for-ministers/worship-resources/special-services/stewardship/call-to-worship>
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