

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Northampton Presbyterian Church

*“Simple Gifts Worship”*

*Ninth Sunday After Pentecost*

*July 30, 2023*

*10:00 AM*

# **PRELUDE**

*Tranquility*

Lasky

# **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Give thanks to the Lord; call on His name; make His deeds known to all the people!

**MANY: For He is the Lord, our God, faithful to a thousand generations!**

ONE: Sing His praises; tell of His wonderful works, and glory in His holy name! Let those who seek the Lord rejoice!

**MANY: For He is the Lord, our God, faithful to a thousand generations!**

ONE: Search for God, and for His strength. Never stop looking for Him.

**MANY: For He is the Lord, our God, faithful to a thousand generations!**

# HYMN

*To God Be the Glory*

*TO GOD BE THE GLORY*

**To God be the glory;  
Great things he has done!  
So loved he the world  
That he gave us his Son,  
Who yielded his life  
An atonement for sin,  
And opened the life-gate  
That all may go in.**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;**

**Let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;**

**Let the people rejoice!**

**O come to the Father**

**Through Jesus the Son,**

**And give him the glory:**

**Great things he has done!**

**Great things he has taught us;  
Great things he has done,  
And great our rejoicing  
Through Jesus the Son;  
But purer and higher  
And greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport,  
When Jesus we see.**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;**

**Let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;**

**Let the people rejoice!**

**O come to the Father**

**Through Jesus the Son,**

**And give him the glory:**

**Great things he has done!**

# PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## READER'S THEATER

*Genesis 29:15-28 (Jacob's Wedding)*

NARR: After Jacob had been working with Laban for a month, Laban said:

LABAN: You shouldn't work for me without pay just because we are relatives. Tell me how much your wages should be.



NARR: Now Laban had two daughters. The older daughter was named Leah, and the younger one was Rachel. Leah had lovely eyes, but her sister Rachel was stunningly beautiful. Since Jacob was in love with Rachel, he told her father,

JACOB: I'll work for you for seven years if you'll give me Rachel, your younger daughter, as my wife.

NARR: Laban readily agreed.

LABAN: I'd far rather have her marry you than some outsider. Stay here, and work with me.

NARR: So Jacob stayed with Laban, and worked seven years to pay for Rachel. But his love for her was so strong that it seemed to him but a few days. Finally, the time came for him to marry her.

JACOB: I have fulfilled my agreement. Now give me my wife so I can marry her.

NARR: So Laban prepared a lavish wedding feast and invited everyone in the neighborhood. But that night, when it was dark, Laban took Leah to Jacob instead, and he slept with her. And when Jacob woke up in the morning—it was Leah! Jacob was very upset and confronted his uncle.

JACOB: What have you done to me? I worked seven years for Rachel! Why have you tricked me?

LABAN: In our country, it's not our custom to marry off a younger daughter ahead of the firstborn. But wait until the honeymoon is over, then we'll give you Rachel, too—provided you promise to work another seven years for me.

NARR: So Jacob agreed to work seven more years. A week after Jacob had married Leah, Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

# **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

*Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52*

## **SERMON**

Rev. Sarah Colwill

# HYMN

*Seek Ye First*

*LAFFERTY*

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
And its righteousness,  
And all these things shall be added unto you.**

**Allelu, Alleluia!**

**Alleluia, alleluia,**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Ask, and it shall be given unto you;**

**Seek and you shall find;**

**Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.**

**Allelu, Alleluia!**

**Alleluia, alleluia,**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**You shall not live by bread alone,  
But by every word  
That proceeds from the mouth of God.  
Allelu, Alleluia!**

**Alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, alleluia!**

## **THE OFFERING**

*(Scan the QR Code to give online →)*



**MUSICAL MEDITATION** *(Steve Cocchia & Corinne Kauermann):*

*Amazing Grace/House of the Rising Sun*

Traditional



# **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

*To What Can the Kingdom of God Be Compared*      *TO GOD BE THE GLORY*

**To what can the kingdom of God be compared?**

**A mustard seed falls where a field's been prepared,**

**And there, where predictable plantings should be,**

**There grows up a wild bush — as big as a tree!**

**God of love, here on earth, hidden things still surprise:**

**Loving deeds... signs of birth... faithful, Spirit-filled lives.**

**Your reign is amazing, your ways still astound,**

**Just like that new life springing forth from the ground.**

**A small bit of leaven will change the whole bread:  
A poor woman sees that her neighbors are fed,  
A church reaches out to the youth in the town,  
A man shares his faith and God's blessings abound!**

**God of love, here on earth, hidden things still surprise:  
Loving deeds... signs of birth... faithful, Spirit-filled lives.  
Your reign is amazing, your ways still astound,  
Just like that new life springing forth from the ground.**

**While some look for treasure or one priceless pearl,  
God's reign is the gift wise ones seek in this world.**

**A girl sells possessions to help those in need;**

**A boy chooses faithfulness rather than greed.**

**God of love, here on earth, hidden things still surprise:**

**Loving deeds... signs of birth... faithful, Spirit-filled lives.**

**Your reign is amazing, your ways still astound,**

**Just like that new life springing forth from the ground.**

# **RESPONSIVE COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION**

ONE: Go from this place with joy, giving thanks to God, proclaiming His goodness, celebrating His love, and worshipping Him with your lives.

**MANY: For He is the Lord our God, faithful to a thousand generations.**

ONE: And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and among you in the days ahead. Amen!

# **POSTLUDE**

*Welcome Happy Morning*

Broughton

We welcome the **Rev. Sarah A. Colwill** to the pulpit today.

Sarah serves as Program Director for “Cultivating Enough,” a clergy care initiative of the Presbytery of Philadelphia. Prior to working for the presbytery, she served as pastor at Church on the Mall; chaplain for a United Methodist campus ministry at Drexel University, and as Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Flourtown. Sarah’s ongoing call to ministry stems from the loving church community in which she was raised, where she was taught that she is loved, she belongs, and she is valued. Sarah lives in Lafayette Hill with her two teenage children.

We thank Steve Cocchia and Corinne Kauermann for their musical contributions today!



## **WORSHIP NOTES:**

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

The **Opening** and **Sermon Hymns** are from the *Glory to God Hymnal* and are licensed for use by CCLI.

The **Prayer for Illumination** is written by B D Prewer 1996 and posted on Bruce Prewer's Home Page.

The **Prayers of the People** are adapted from a prayer posted on the Starters for Sunday website of the Church of Scotland.

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