

# COMMUNION SERVICE

Northampton Presbyterian Church

*Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost*

*November 5, 2023*

*10:00 AM*

# PRELUDE

*Cantata in C*

Seixas

# WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Missions Guest Speaker - Mary Lee Reiff (ANA), today following the worship service.
- Fall Adult Study, Tuesday (11/7) at 12 PM.
- Men's Breakfast, Wednesday (11/8) at 8:30 AM at Robin Hood.

# RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Come, all who are weary from the past week.

**MANY: We come seeking rest; we come seeking comfort.**

ONE: Come, all who are in need of inspiration for the week ahead.

**MANY: We come seeking God's truth, word and worship that will set us on the faithful path.**

ONE: Come, all who are humble, open, and ready to learn.

**MANY: We come as God's students, ready to listen and learn.**

# HYMN

*God Welcomes All*

*THEMBA AMEN*

*The Choir will sing this hymn once,  
then all of us will sing twice more together!*

*God welcomes all,  
Strangers and friends;  
God's love is strong  
And it never ends.*

**God welcomes all,  
Strangers and friends;  
God's love is strong  
And it never ends.**

**God welcomes all,  
Strangers and friends;  
God's love is strong  
And it never ends.**

# UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God our teacher, we often exalt ourselves while evaluating and judging others. We assume too much and don't invest enough in listening, learning, and seeking to understand. You call us to humility, yet we resist, puffing ourselves up with prideful arrogance and rigid certainty. Forgive us, soften our hearts and open our minds to all we have yet to learn. Amen.**

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

# **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**ONE:** Hear these words from Isaiah: “Your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

**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**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Joshua 3:7-17*

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

*Matthew 23:1-12*

**SERMON**

*Necessary Risks*

Rev. Judith A. Dwyer

# **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

## *The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

# **CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

*(Scan the QR Code to give online →)*

# **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*Seed, Scattered and Sown*



Dan Feiten

# COMMUNION

*The Invitation:*

*HYMN - Come to the Table of Grace*

*TABLE OF GRACE*

**Come to the table of grace.**

**Come to the table of grace.**

**This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.**

**Come to the table of grace.**

**Come to the table of peace.**

**Come to the table of peace.**

**This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.**

**Come to the table of peace.**

**Come to the table of love.**

**Come to the table of love.**

**This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.**

**Come to the table of love.**

**Come to the table of hope.**

**Come to the table of hope.**

**This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.**

**Come to the table of hope.**

**Come to the table of joy.**

**Come to the table of joy.**

**This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.**

**Come to the table of joy.**

*Sharing the Bread and Cup*

*Pastoral Prayer*

# HYMN

*Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*

*THE SERVANT SONG*

**Will you let me be your servant,**

**Let me be as Christ to you?**

**Pray that I may have the grace to**

**Let you be my servant too.**



**We are pilgrims on a journey;**

**We're together on the road.**

**We are here to help each other**

**Walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christ-light for you**

**In the nighttime of your fear.**

**I will hold my hand out to you,**

**Speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping;  
When you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
Till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven,  
We shall find such harmony,  
Born of all we've known together  
Of Christ's love and agony.**

# CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

ONE: We do not leave God behind when we leave this sanctuary. God's call to love, to humility, to work and service that benefit all, is clear. May this call be ever before us; guiding us, inspiring us, enabling us to be Christ's body – his hands, his feet, his heart – in this, God's world. May the grace, hope, peace, and love of God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be with us all, now and forever.

**MANY: Amen.**

# HYMN

*The Lord's Prayer (Sung):*

**Our Father, which 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,  
Forever, Amen.**

# **POSTLUDE**

*Sending Forth*

Lindter

We welcome **Mary Lee Reiff** to our worship and post-worship gathering.

As a child of a career military dad, Mary Lee lived in many areas of the world and learned much about those who don't have nearly as much as we do. She met husband Brian in college and moved to Doylestown in 1976, where the happy couple joined Doylestown Presbyterian Church and Mary Lee was the church secretary for 22 years. Daughter Jen is a child of the Doylestown congregation, has her Masters in Theology and is married to a Methodist pastor. They live in Alexandria with their ten year-old twin sons.

Mary Lee's Native American heritage (Chickasaw) spurred her interest in Americans for Native Americans (ANA), which she and Brian joined in 2002. Partnering with the Navajo, Hopi, and Zuni has been a humbling, yet joyful experience for both, and hearing needs and joining together with others to help solve them has been a true blessing.

Mary Lee has enjoyed coordinating the Community Meal (an outgrowth of the Code Blue Shelter) at DPC every third Sunday since 2015 and finds it heartwarming to work with so many people of all ages and walks of life from the congregation and community.

<https://www.americansfornativeamericans.org>

## **WORSHIP NOTES:**

The **Liturgy** for today's service is written by Teri McDowell Ott and provided for free distribution by The Presbyterian Outlook. [www.pres-outlook.org](http://www.pres-outlook.org)

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