

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Northampton Presbyterian Church

*SIMPLE GIFTS WORSHIP*

*Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost*

*August 25, 2024*

*10:00 AM*

# **PRELUDE**

*Sweet Hour of Prayer*

Gene Clark

# **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Preschool Board Meeting, Monday (8/26) at 6:30 PM.
- Women's Breakfast, Wednesday (8/28) at 9 AM.
- Farewell Reception, Thursday (8/29) at 11 AM.
- Project Regeneration Team & Session Dinner at UVA in Richboro, Thursday (8/29) at 6 PM.

## **RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP** *(based on Psalm 84:1-7)*

ONE: How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

**MANY: We long to be where You are; to stand in Your very presence, and to behold You, face to face!**

ONE: And so we have come to this place today; we have gathered together to worship You—to offer the praise which belongs to You alone.

**MANY: Bless us as we worship You together, and as we open our hearts and minds to Your presence among us.**

ONE: For You alone are God, the One in whom we trust. Amen.

# HYMN

*Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

*UNSER HERRSCHER*

**Open now thy gates of beauty,  
Zion, let me enter there,  
Where my soul in joyful duty  
Waits for God who answers prayer;  
O how blessed is this place,  
Filled with solace, light, and grace.**

**Gracious God, I come before thee;  
Come thou also unto me;  
Where we find thee and adore thee,  
There a heaven on earth must be;  
To my heart O enter thou;  
Let it be thy temple now.**

**Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee;  
Let thy will be done indeed;  
May I undisturbed draw near thee,  
While thou dost thy people feed.  
Here of life the fountain flows;  
Here is balm for all our woes.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43*

## **RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE READING** *(Psalm 84)*

ONE: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

**MANY: My soul longs, indeed it faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.**

ONE: Even the sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

**MANY: Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.**

ONE: Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

**MANY:** As they go through the valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools.

ONE: They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

**MANY:** O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!

ONE: Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed.

**MANY:** For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness.

ONE: For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly.

**MANY: O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.**

## **SERMON**

Rev. Judith A. Dwyer

## **HYMN**

*Let Us Build a House*

*TWO OAKS*

**Let us build a house where love can dwell  
And all can safely live,  
A place where saints and children tell  
How hearts learn to forgive.**

**Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
Rock of faith and vault of grace;  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:  
All are welcome; all are welcome;  
All are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
And words are strong and true,  
Where all God's children dare to seek  
To dream God's reign anew.**

**Here the cross shall stand as witness  
And as symbol of God's grace;  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:  
All are welcome; all are welcome;  
All are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where love is found  
In water, wine, and wheat;  
A banquet hall on holy ground  
Where peace and justice meet.**

**Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
Is revealed in time and space;  
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:  
All are welcome; all are welcome;  
All are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where hands will reach  
Beyond the wood and stone  
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
And live the Word they've known.**

**Here the outcast and the stranger  
Bear the image of God's face;  
Let us bring an end to fear and danger:  
All are welcome; all are welcome;  
All are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where all are named,  
Their songs and visions heard  
And loved and treasured,  
Taught and claimed as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
Prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:  
All are welcome; all are welcome;  
All are welcome in this place.**

## **THE OFFERING**

*(Scan the QR Code to give online →)*



## **MUSICAL MEDITATION** *(Pam Kemper, Soloist)*

*Well Done*

The Afters

# **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.**

# **SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS**

# RESPONSIVE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ONE: Lord God Almighty, may we revere and serve you, forsaking all other would-be gods. Loving God, you hear our prayers:

**MANY: You live among us.**

ONE: Holy Trinity, one God, you are so powerful that the highest heaven cannot contain you. Neither can our churches, our hearts or our world hold you fast. Nevertheless, hear our prayers and pleas this day, for your love is far greater than our needs. Loving God, you hear our prayers:

**MANY: You live among us.**

ONE: Holy Spirit, comfort the brokenhearted among us with your promise of redemption and resurrection, for we believe we shall live forever in the house of the Lord. Loving God, you hear our prayers:

**MANY: You live among us.**

ONE: Arm us with your might, Lord God, else we will be defeated by evil. May your truth, peace, faith and holy Word guard us, inspire us and embolden us to be your people. Loving God, you hear our prayers:

**MANY: You live among us.**

ONE: Lord Jesus Christ, help us take no offense from your difficult teachings. You are the Holy One of God, and the Heavenly Father bids us come to you in faith. Loving God, you hear our prayers:

**MANY: You live among us.**

ONE: Lord God Almighty, this world delights in producing weapons of war. Forgive us our fear of one another, teach us to trust your Son, and bring peace to the hearts of all people. Loving God, you hear our prayers:

**MANY: You live among us.**

ONE: Among us are many counting on your goodness and mercy for hope and healing. Hear us as we name them now: Loving God, you hear our prayers:

**MANY: You live among us.**

ONE: The love of God has won. The new life has begun.

**MANY: Amen.**

*And now let us pray together the prayer Jesus taught his disciples, saying:*

**MANY: 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, forever. Amen.**

# HYMN

*Go to the World!*

*SINE NOMINE*

**Go to the world! Go into all the earth.**

**Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,**

**Baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Go to the world! Go into every place.**

**Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.**

**Go seek God's presence in each time and space.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;  
The nights of tears give way to joyful day.  
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,  
For I am with you till the age shall end,  
When all the hosts of glory cry, "Amen!"  
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

# **RESPONSIVE COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION**

**ONE:** Go out, and make known the mystery of the gospel. Keep alert and pray at all times. Draw strength from God's power and so stand firm against all that would corrupt you. And may God arm you with truth and righteousness; May Christ Jesus give you words of Spirit and life; and may the Holy Spirit draw you near to God's presence and bless you with honor and grace.

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

**POSTLUDE** *(Kevin Kauermann, cello)*

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

David Abramsky

## WORSHIP NOTES

The **Prayer for Illumination** is posted on **Leonard Sweet's Preach the Story**.

<https://preachthestory.com/resources>

The **Prayers of the People** are written by Paul Sauer, and posted on the **Lutheran Forum** website.

<http://www.lutheranforum.org>

The **Benediction** is written by Moira Laidlaw, and posted on **Liturgies Online**.

<http://www.liturgiesonline.com.au>

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