Carmel Presbyterian Church Sixth Sunday of Easter Presbyterian Heritage Sunday May 22, 2022 10:00 AM



Order of Worship

* Please stand, as able.

Congregation voices **Bold** responses.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

We gather as a community of faith to meet God in new ways, and we reflect on the hope and promise of God's gift to us through Jesus Christ.

Welcome and Greetings -

Prelude

"The Peace may be exchanged"
(from "Rubrics")

Dan Locklair (b. 1949)

* Call to Worship (Spoken responsively) -

May God be gracious to us and bless us.

May God's face shine upon us and bring us peace!

Let all people praise you, O Lord.

Let all people shout their joy to your holy name.

God blesses us continually throughout all our lives.

Thanks be to God, for God's eternal love and blessing. Amen

* Hymn 454

"Blessed Jesus, at Your Word"

Liebster Jesu

Call to Confession – Pastor Peter

Prayer of Confession (In unison) -

Emmanuel, you promise to dwell with us in all our humanness. We desire to keep your word, yet there are times when we fall short, we lack courage, and our faith falters. Despite your gift of peace, we are troubled and afraid. Forgive us when we close our hearts and shut you out. Save us from the idolatry of self-sufficiency, and be with us as our God...

(A moment of silence for personal reflection & confession...)

Amen. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Read responsively) -

Hear the good news: These words are trustworthy and true: God is making all things new, including us. We are God's sons and daughters, and through Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

* Gloria Patri – Hymn 567

"Glory to the Father"

John Weaver

* Passing of the Peace (Spoken responsively; adapted from John 14) —

God gives us the gift of peace, not as the world gives, but as a deep peace that casts out fear.

Let us greet one another with the sign of God's peace: "The peace of Christ be with you!"

(Greet one another sharing God's peace now and throughout the week.)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

We hear the stories of our faith in scripture, song, prayer, and sermon.

Children's Message –

(Children may leave for Children's Worship downstairs in Carmel Hall.)

Unison Prayer for Illumination (In unison) -

God, author of our lives, as we listen now to the words of your story in scripture, we ask that you might continue your story in us. As we listen, guide our understanding. And as we understand, guide our lives as we seek to respond in faith. Amen.

First Reading —

The first lectionary reading is Acts, chapter 16, verses 9-15; pp. 127-128). Hearing Paul in Macedonia, Lydia and her household are baptized. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

A vision of a man from Macedonia came to Paul during the night. He stood urging Paul, "Come over to Macedonia and help us". Immediately after he saw the vision, we prepared to leave for the province of Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We sailed from Troas straight for Samothrace and came to Neapolis the following day. From there we went to Philippi, a city of Macedonia's first district and a Roman colony. We stayed in that city several days. On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the riverbank, where we thought there might be a place for prayer. We sat down and began to talk with the women who had gathered. One of those women was Lydia, a Gentile God-worshipper from the city of Thyatira, a dealer in purple cloth. As she listened, the Lord enabled her to embrace Paul's message. Once she and her household were baptized, she urged, "Now that you have decided that I am a believer in the Lord, come and stay in my house." And she persuaded us.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

* Hymn 203

"God of Mercy, God of Grace"

Impact

This hymn is based on the lectionary Psalm of the day: Psalm 67; p. 500. May God be gracious and bless us; let the whole earth praise God.

New Testament Reading -

Our second reading from the lectionary is Revelation, chapter 21, verse 10 and chapter 21, verses 22- chapter 22, verse 5; pp. 244-245. A vision of the holy city; the river of life flows from God's throne. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

He took me in a Spirit-inspired trance to a great, high mountain, and he showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God....

.... I didn't see a temple in the city, because its temple is the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb. The city doesn't need the sun or the moon to shine on it, because God's glory is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day, and there will be no night there. They will bring the glory and honor of the nations into it. Nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is vile and deceitful, but only those who are registered in the Lamb's scroll of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of life-giving water, shining like crystal, flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb through the middle of the city's main street. On each side of the river is the tree of life, which produces twelve crops of fruit, bearing its fruit each month. The tree's leaves are for the healing of the nations. There will no longer be any curse. The throne of God and the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. Night will be no more. They won't need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will shine on them, and they will rule forever and always.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Gospel Reading -

The gospel reading from the lectionary is John, chapter 5, verses 1-9; p. 90. At the pool of Beth-zatha in Jerusalem, Jesus heals a paralyzed man. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

After this there was a Jewish festival, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate in the north city wall is a pool with the Aramaic name Bethsaida. It had five covered porches, and a crowd of people who were sick, blind, lame, and paralyzed sat there. A certain man was there who had been sick for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, knowing that he had already been there a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?"

The sick man answered him, "Sir, I don't have anyone who can put me in the water when it is stirred up. When I'm trying to get to it, someone else has gotten in ahead of me."

Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." Immediately the man was well, and he picked up his mat and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

"Do You Want to Get Well?"

Pastor Peter

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Inspired by the promise of God's Word, let us give our thanks and praise – so we may continue God's work as we move into God's week.

* Hymn 322 (Sung three times)

"Spirit of the Living God"

Living God

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession and The Lord's Prayer (using 'debts' & debtors")

Invitation to the Offering – Pastor Peter

(Our hearts are open, and our ministries are continuing seven days a week. Your contribution or pledge payment sustains our presence as the church to the community—both local and global. Please place your offering in the collection plate at the back of the sanctuary, give it online, or mail your offering envelope to the church office.)

Offertory

"Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal" Sanctuary Choir

arr. Alice Parker

Hark, I hear the harps eternal Ringing on the farther shore, As I near those swollen waters, With their deep and solemn roar. Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, praise the Lamb, Hallelujah, hallelujah, Glory to the great I AM.

And my soul though stained with sorrow, Fading as the light of day,
Passes swiftly o'er those waters To the city far away.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, praise the Lamb,
Hallelujah, hallelujah, Glory to the great I AM.

Souls have crossed before me, saintly, To that land of perfect rest; And I hear them singing faintly In the mansions of the blest. Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, praise the Lamb, Hallelujah, hallelujah, Glory to the great I AM.

* Doxology 592

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Old Hundredth

(An Usher will bring the Offering Plate forward, returning it to the rear of the Sanctuary.)

* Prayer of Dedication of Time, Gifts, and Tithes -

God of generosity, we are grateful you do not give as the world gives. Instead, you give unconditionally and abundantly. As we offer our time, talent, and treasure, we ask that you might transform our efforts so that our giving might come to be more and more like yours. Amen.

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE GOD

Renewed and refreshed by our experience with God and God's congregation, we go into the world to share God's love.

* Hymn 276

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Faithfulness

* Charge and Benediction -

Beloved of God, go to be a blessing. Bring the good news of forgiveness and healing to this hurting, lonely world. Bring hope to all, for God's love is poured out for all God's people.

And, even as Jesus departs, he promises that we will never be alone. Therefore, we can go out in confidence to love and serve the Lord.

And as you go, may the love of God, the peace of the Risen Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit guide you and keep you, this day, and every day. Alleluia, Amen.

Chimes – (You may sit in silent, reflective prayer as the worship leaders recess.)

* Postlude The Prince of Denmark's March

Jeremiah Clarke

Announcements

Guests: You Are Welcome Here

WE CORDIALLY WELCOME THOSE WHO ARE VISITING TODAY. We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in our worship, mission, and programs; we are happy to share our ministry with you. We'd like to get to know you. Please introduce yourself to a person nearby and be sure to join us downstairs in Carmel Hall for refreshments and conversation after worship! We hope your worship experience is meaningful and you will gather with us again soon. Should you wish for Hearing Devices and/or Large Print Bibles & Hymnals, they are available from an usher. Sign our guest book at the sanctuary entrance (or share your email/contact information in the offering plate for a weekly email of future worship and activities). We invite you to speak with the Pastor if you are interested in membership. A Virtual Fellowship Time is also possible on Zoom. And, restrooms are located down the long hallway just past the Church Office in the Education Building. Welcome!

THIS MORNING, THE FLOWERS IN OUR SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in witness to the beauty of Creation.

IS THERE A GRADUATE IN YOUR FAMILY?

Do you have a family member who will be graduating high school, college, or graduate school this year? If so, please send Mary Kate at the Church Office the information from where they are graduating and what their plans might be for the next few years: office@presbycarmel.org

CARMEL'S NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKS CHURCH OFFICERS – The Nominating Committee will meet soon to fill upcoming vacancies on Session, the Board of Deacons, Shepherds, Audit Committee members, and non-church officers members of the Nominating Committee. If you would like to serve or recommend a member to serve, please fill out the form and drop it in the offering plate or email the Church Office.

PASTORS WEDNESDAY ZOOM ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP: THE MATTHEW 25 VISION – Pastor Peter's **Wednesday Night Zoom Discussion Group** meets Wednesday evenings through June 8th, from 7:30-9:00 pm. This study explores the Good News of Jesus and how to faithfully express what it means to be Christ's disciples in this time and place. Pastor Peter and the Christian Education Committee had several requests to discuss the Matthew 25 Vision, which grew out of the work of the 2016 and 2018 PC(USA) General Assemblies. Philadelphia Presbytery's own Doylestown and Bethel Presbyterian congregations will be featured in a video. The three foci of the study will be building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and

eradicating systemic poverty. Pastor Peter will provide background and theological reflection for the **Matthew 25 Vision**. Each week a communication will be sent with the Zoom link or phone connection!

PDA EMERGENCY RELIEF FOR THOSE FLEEING VIOLENCE IN UKRAINE – Support the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s emergency relief for those fleeing violence in Ukraine. The Russian invasion of Ukraine produced the largest refugee crisis in Europe this century. Ukrainians face urgent needs for medical care and basic needs like food, water, and fuel. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has a specially designated account to supplement the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering to enable a significant response to humanitarian efforts to assist international refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Please drop a check marked "Ukraine22" on the offering plate or make your direct donation via www.pcusa.org/ukraine22.

SUPPORT THE LOCAL "CHRIST IS CALLING" PROJECT FOR UKRAINE – Session approved the "Christ Is Calling" local hands-on-mission opportunity for which Carmel may participate. We have found a new source to continue our Carmel donation project for Ukraine. The Ukrainian Sisters of St. Basil at Manor College in Abington Township expect to be collecting and shipping necessary supplies for Ukraine for some time to come. They desire many of the same items of our original list, plus a few highlighted additions. You can leave your donations in the designated bins in Carmel's lobby for delivery to the Sisters, whom coordinator Mary Ellen Thomas contacted. Contact coordinators Mary Ellen and Janet Simon for more information.

Ukraine Humanitarian Aid Collection:

Items in high demand are:

- **Army Essentials**: CAT tourniquet, gauze, sleeping bags, blankets, dark thermals, gloves, socks, knee pads, elbow pads, power banks, flashlights, SD cards, yoga mats, and water bottles.
- **Baby Essentials**: Baby wipes, dry baby food, baby food in pouches, baby medicine, baby bottles, and diapers.
- Medical Supplies: Crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, OTC meds, first aid kits, bandages
- **Dry Food**: Protein bars, granola bars, canned chicken or fish, pasta, Ramen noodles, fruit rolls.
- Personal Hygiene Items: Soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes.

Thanks for answering Christ's Call to assist Ukrainians during this very difficult time when needs are great.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP AT CPC—CONTACT PASTOR PETER — Have you thought about making Carmel your church home? Interested in learning more about what membership at BPC involves? We are planning to schedule our next adult membership class and would love to be in conversation with you about how you can take the next step toward membership. We do not have a date set but would appreciate you letting us know your interest by emailing office@presbycarmel.org or contacting Pastor Peter.

CARMEL IS HAPPY TO PROVIDE FOR THE YOUNG MEMBERS of our congregation by offering Nursery Care and Children's Worship (third grade and below) during the Sunday 10:00 am worship service. They are being led by two of our committed and dedicated volunteers, Marleen Heintz for Nursery Care and Melissa MacFarland for Children's Worship. At this time, we request that if you desire nursery care for your child during Sunday worship, please call the Church Office by Friday noon, so that the nursery is staffed. Children's Worship will meet in Carmel Hall for larger spacing and does not require reserving ahead. Children from Grades K-3 leave the Sanctuary after the Children's Message. We welcome our young families, either in person or in virtual worship. Any questions may be addressed to Janet Simon, Christian Education Committee chair; Marleen, or Melissa.

CARMEL CONFIRMATION GROUP CONTINUES THROUGH CONFIRMATION SUNDAY -- The **Confirmation Group** meets Sundays at 9:00 am in the Chapel. **Confirmation Sunday** will be on the **Day of Pentecost**, Sunday, June 5, 2022. We will welcome our newest members of Carmel that day!

WONDER "WHAT'S GOING ON?" CHECK OUT CARMEL'S WEBSITE! Explore the wealth of information at www.presbycarmel.org. Easily find links for the current Livestream worship, past services, the daily lectionary, or to send a prayer request or make a financial donation—and not to miss the latest on the Carmel Calendar. Clicking on the upper circular church photo will always bring you back to the Home Page.

JOIN US EACH SUNDAY IN WORSHIP; CELEBRATE COMMUNION ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH! Live Streaming Worship continues on YouTube, via Zoom on the phone, and Zoom for virtual fellowship following worship for those unable to attend in-person worship due to health comfort levels or travel situations.

SIGN-UP TO HELP WITH WORSHIP – EACH SUNDAY WE HAVE several spots you can assist: liturgist, ushers, greeters, and host for coffee hour. We are not all we can be without you sharing your gifts as a volunteer! Speak with a pastor or sign up online here: https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/904094ca8a62aa6f49-worship

WELCOME TO SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP LIVE STREAMING ON SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM

YouTube (Carmel Presbyterian Church Glenside) at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2KnjuJryWjVkrJljlDvsRw
Those without Internet access may phone in via the Zoom phone link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8428511409 and Meeting ID: 842 851 1409 "Virtual Fellowship Time" may be accessed on Zoom only after the service ends.

WORSHIPING IN THE TIME OF COVID-19 – Masking in the building is now optional in accordance with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's revised guidelines. Those whose health is compromised should consult their healthcare provider as to whether to continue wearing a mask. Visitors and members are welcome to wear a mask if they wish. Masking requirements will automatically fluctuate accordingly as Montgomery County moves between the various CDC levels of low, medium, and high, with masks required when at the high level. Members will be notified as levels change and updated signs will be placed on the church's front door.

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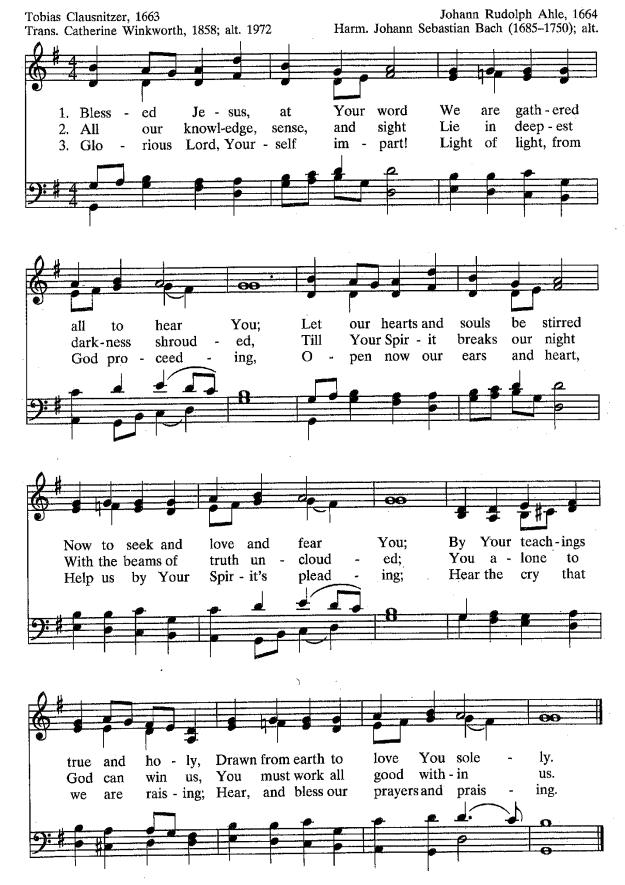
Participants Serving the Church in Worship

Peter Sulyok, Transitional Senior Pastor
James D. Eby, Pastor Emeritus
Abigail Vander Hart Palmisano, Organist and Director of Music
Deb Gates, Liturgist
Sanctuary Choir
TBA, Usher/Greeter
Linda MacFarland and Kristin Waldner, Shepherds
Walt Newman, Chancel Preparation and Emergency Procedure (CPEP) Member
Gary Moll, Jay Raulinaitis, and Kerri Strike-Stahller, Live-Streaming Operators
Denise Abraham, Coffee Fellowship Host: Carmel Hall (11:00 AM)

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

454

LIEBSTER JESU 7.8.7.8.8.8



Glory to the Father

567



*May be sung as a canon.

=58-63

God of Mercy, God of Grace



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Spirit of the Living God

LIVING GOD Irregular



Text and Music: © 1935, renewal © 1963 Birdwing Music (ASCAP). All rights controlled and administered by The Sparrow Corporation, P.O. Box 5010, Brentwood, TN 37024-5010. All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used by permission.

592 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



* Or "God."

276

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10 with refrain



^{*}Or "Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

