# Carmel Presbyterian Church Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost Fall Sermon Series: "What Does It Mean to Be Protestant, Reformed, and Presbyterian?" September 25, 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 Cwm Rhondda Alan Viner
(God of Grace and God of Glory)

\* Call to Worship (Spoken responsively) -

Let us hear what the Lord will speak.

God will speak peace to the people.

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet.

Justice and peace will kiss each other.

Faithfulness will spring up from the earth.

Justice will look down from the sky. The Lord will give what is good.

The earth will be filled with abundance.

\* Hymn 420

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

Cwm Rhondda

Call to Confession (Seated) -

#### Prayer of Confession (In unison) -

Holy God, merciful and mighty, you call us to seek good and not evil. You call us to establish justice so that all may live in peace. But we trample the poor, we oppress the weak, and we push aside the needy. We take what is not ours, ignore the words of your prophets, and silence the voices of truth. Forgive us, O God Almighty; restore us. Make us holy; make us whole. Let your justice roll down like water and your righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, so that songs of peace and joy may resound

#### again in our land; through Jesus Christ our Savior...

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

Amen. Amen.

#### Assurance of Pardon (Read responsively) -

Friends: our God calls each of us as chosen people, continues to supply our needs, and is our constant companion.

#### Though we grow weary, let us take heart.

Our God, the healer of our lives, is always ready to forgive us, to grant justice, and to offer love. Believe the good news of the Gospel!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

\* Gloria Patri – Hymn 567

"Glory to the Father"

John Weaver

#### \* Passing of the Peace (Spoken responsively) –

Here, where others have been building, we claim the legacy of faith.

We come to take, in our turn, the telling of God's story, and speak God's hope and truth.

We come to celebrate the Spirit who draws us together, sojourners in faith, secure in the knowledge that we never travel alone.

The Spirit who turns a stranger into a friend gathers us in worship where we greet each other in the peace we pass from hand to hand. Amen!

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also, 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 – Pastor Peter

(Following the Children's message, children in third grade and below are invited to depart for Children's Worship downstairs in Carmel Hall.)

#### Unison Prayer for Illumination (In unison) -

Almighty God of our salvation, how beautiful are those who bring good news and announce your peace. By the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to hear and believe your Word and to show and tell this good news: peace on earth and goodwill to all; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

#### First Reading —

The first lectionary reading is Jeremiah, chapter 32, verses 1-3a and verses 6-15; p. XXX). Buy the field at Anathoth; houses and vineyards will one day return. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

Jeremiah received the Lord's word in the tenth year of Judah's King Zedekiah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar's rule. At that time, the army of the Babylonian king had surrounded Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined to the prison quarters in the palace of Judah's king. Judah's King Zedekiah had Jeremiah sent there after questioning him: "Why do you prophesy..."

... Jeremiah said, The Lord's word came to me: Your cousin Hanamel, Shallum's son, is on his way to see you; and when he arrives, he will tell you: "Buy my field in Anathoth, for by law you are next in line to

purchase it." And just as the Lord had said, my cousin Hanamel showed up at the prison quarters and told me, "Buy my field in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for you are next in line and have a family obligation to purchase it." Then I was sure this was the Lord's doing.

So I bought the field in Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out for him seventeen shekels of silver. I signed the deed, sealed it, had it witnessed, and weighed out the silver on the scales. Then I took the deed of purchase—the sealed copy, with its terms and conditions, and the unsealed copy—and gave it to Baruch, Neriah's son and Mahseiah's grandson, before my cousin Hanamel and the witnesses named in the deed, as well as before all the Judeans who were present in the prison quarters. I charged Baruch before all of them: "The Lord of heavenly forces, the God of Israel, proclaims: Take these documents—this sealed deed of purchase along with the unsealed one—and put them into a clay container so they will last a long time. The Lord of heavenly forces, the God of Israel, proclaims: Houses, fields, and vineyards will again be bought in this land."

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

#### New Testament Reading -

The second lectionary reading is 1 Timothy, chapter 6, verses 6-19; p. XXXXX. The love of money is the root of evil; be rich in good works instead. Listen now for the word of God to you!

Actually, godliness is a great source of profit when it is combined with being happy with what you already have. We didn't bring anything into the world and so we can't take anything out of it: we'll be happy with food and clothing. But people who are trying to get rich fall into temptation. They are trapped by many stupid and harmful passions that plunge people into ruin and destruction. The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Some have wandered away from the faith and have impaled themselves with a lot of pain because they made money their goal.

But as for you, man of God, run away from all these things. Instead, pursue righteousness, holy living, faithfulness, love, endurance, and gentleness. Compete in the good fight of faith. Grab hold of eternal life—you were called to it, and you made a good confession of it in the presence of many witnesses. I command you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and Christ Jesus, who made the good confession when testifying before Pontius Pilate. Obey this order without fault or failure until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ. The timing of this appearance is revealed by God alone, who is the blessed and only master, the King of kings and Lord of lords. He alone has immortality and lives in light that no one can come near. No human being has ever seen or is able to see him. Honor and eternal power belong to him. Amen.

Tell people who are rich at this time not to become egotistical and not to place their hope on their finances, which are uncertain. Instead, they need to hope in God, who richly provides everything for our enjoyment. Tell them to do good, to be rich in the good things they do, to be generous, and to share with others. When they do these things, they will save a treasure for themselves that is a good foundation for the future. That way they can take hold of what is truly life.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### New Testament Gospel Reading -

The gospel reading from the lectionary is Luke, chapter 16, verses 19-31; p. XXXX. Jesus tells the parable of Lazarus and the rich man in Hades. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

"There was a certain rich man who clothed himself in purple and fine linen, and who feasted luxuriously every day. At his gate lay a certain poor man named Lazarus who was covered with sores. Lazarus longed to eat the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table. Instead, dogs would come and lick his sores.

"The poor man died and was carried by angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. While being tormented in the place of the dead, he looked up and saw Abraham at a distance with Lazarus at his side. He shouted, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I'm suffering in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received good things, whereas Lazarus received terrible things. Now Lazarus is being comforted and you are in great pain. Moreover, a great crevasse has been fixed between us and you. Those who wish to cross over from here to you cannot. Neither can anyone cross from there to us.'

"The rich man said, 'Then I beg you, Father, send Lazarus to my father's house. I have five brothers. He needs to warn them so that they don't come to this place of agony.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets. They must listen to them.' The rich man said, 'No, Father Abraham! But if someone from the dead goes to them, they will change their hearts and lives.' Abraham said, 'If they don't listen to Moses and the Prophets, then neither will they be persuaded if someone rises from the dead.'"

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Fall Sermon Series – "What Does It Mean to Be Protestant, Reformed, and Presbyterian?"
Sermon 3 "Does the Sovereignty of God Effect My Life?"

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 275 "God of Our Life" Sandon

**Sharing Joys and Concerns** 

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession and The Lord's Prayer – (Using 'debts' & 'debtors')

Minute for Mission – David Rice

#### Invitation to the Offering -

(Our hearts are open, and our ministries are continuing seven days a week. Your contribution or pledge payment sustains our presence as the church in the local and global community. 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.)

#### "On Eagle's Wings" (Text based on Psalm 91) Sanctuary Choir

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in His shadow for life, say to the Lord; "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

#### Refrain:

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of His hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear: under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield. (**Refrain**)

You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day; though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. (Refrain)

For to His angels He's given a command to guard you in all of your ways; upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. (Refrain)

\* 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.)

st Prayer of Dedication of Time, Gifts, and Tithes (In unison) –

Let us pray,

Eternal God, from the abundance of your creation we have all we need. You have blessed us richly. Bless us again by receiving these gifts, multiplying them, and using them, so that we might see your kingdom at work among us, through Christ our Lord. 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 260

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Ein' Feste Burg

#### \* Charge and Benediction -

As Jesus sent the disciples out into the countryside to preach and to heal, Christ sends us out to speak words of hope and to heal human hurts today.

We accept this mission to be the Sovereign God's people in the world.

Go on your way, rejoicing in the presence of God's Spirit, and in the power of the gospel of love and hope. For yours is the glory, O God Almighty, now and forever! Amen.

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

Postlude "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

John A. Behnke

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#### **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.

CARMEL IS HAPPY TO PROVIDE FOR THE YOUNG MEMBERS of our congregation by offering Nursery Care and Children's Worship (Grades K-3) during the Sunday 10:00 am worship service. 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 does not require reserving ahead. Children leave the Sanctuary for Carmel Hall 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; or Melissa MacFarland, Children's Worship leader.

**THIS MORNING, THE FLOWERS IN OUR SANCTUARY** are given in loving memory of our mother and grandmother, Edith R. Ankrum by Janet, Jeanne, and Linda Simon.

**FOR QUIET REFLECTION** – John Piper notes in A Brief Theology of Sleep:

"God is not nearly so impressed with our late nights and early mornings as he is with the peaceful trust that casts all anxieties on him and sleeps."

**HANDBELL CHOIR NEEDS VOLUNTEERS** – Our Handbell Choir has openings for three or four more ringers. We will teach you to read music. If you can count to four and keep a steady beat then you are invited to try out ringing in the Carmel Handbell Choir. We will mark your music and make it easy for you to play by color coding your notes and writing in the counting. Hope to see you on Monday evening at 7:30 PM in the church Choir Room.

**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 officer-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.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY & FELLOWSHIP IS "CELEBRATING SABBATH"** – CPW (Carmel Presbyterian Women) meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 for bible study and fellowship. Our 9-month study is "Celebrating Sabbath" and focuses on exploring the idea of 'accepting God's gift of rest and delight'. Join us in the Women's Fellowship Lounge for lively discussion and light refreshments.

"PRACTICE GENEROSITY" ADULT STUDY GROUP WEDNESDAYS AT 7:30 PM — Pastor Peter offers an Adult Group Study this fall called "Practice Generosity" for four weeks on Wednesdays from 7:30-9:00 pm on Zoom.

We will meet Wednesdays: September 21 & 28, and October 5 & 12. **Generosity** is often understood as an act of kindness that involves giving out of one's abundance to others in need. Well, that's a narrow definition! The Carmel group will examine Biblical teachings describing the practice as a little different. **Generosity is simply, and profoundly, love in action.** A **Zoom** link will be emailed each week before the class. Pick up **Practice Generosity—Adult Reflection Guide** in the Church Office!

FALL SERMON SERIES "PROTESTANT, REFORMED, AND PRESBYTERIAN" UNDER WAY – A series of sermons on "What It Means to Be Protestant, Reformed, and Presbyterian" is underway. Pastor Peter has selected six core convictions of Presbyterians in our "Reformed Tradition" for the Six-Week Series, beginning September 11<sup>th</sup>, and continuing through October 23<sup>rd</sup> (with a gap Sunday on World Communion Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>). Understanding our faith more fully will not only enrich our lives but also give us a deeper meaning with which to enrich the lives of others. Here is the line-up:

- 9.11.22 "Grace—what it means for you!"
- 9.18.22 "Okay—So What Is the Bible?"
- 9.25.22 "Does the Sovereignty of God Effect My Life?"
- 10.02.22 World Communion Sunday (Sermons Series break)
- 10.09.22 "Am I a Priest—the Priesthood of All Believers?"
- 10.16.22 "Life of the Mind", and
- 10.23.22 "Worship of the Heart"

Join in each Sunday to develop a more profound understanding of Jesus as we grow together in faith and discipleship.

**PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS SPECIAL OFFERING FOR MISSIONS** – This is the season for the **Peace & Global Witness Special Offering** partnering with the Presbyterian Church (USA). Carmel will contribute 25% of our collection to Laurel House to provide safety for women and children escaping violence in their homes. Envelopes are at the end of the pews for your use and on the table in the back of the Sanctuary. Please be sure to include your name and/or envelope number with your contribution. While envelopes may be placed in the plate each Sunday, the special offering will be dedicated on **World Communion Sunday**, October 2, 2022.

**CARMEL YOUTH MINISTRY (CYM) FOR GRADES 3-8 IS UNDERWAY! – Carmel Youth Ministry (CYM)** has begun and welcomes all kids in Grades 3-8. It meets Wednesday evenings from 6:30–7:30 in Carmel Hall. Fun, fellowship, and growing together as a group guides the group and leaders. **CYM leaders** Joyce, Katey, Melissa, and Jed look forward to seeing you.

**MUSIC NOTES FROM THE BALCONY** – A new season of singing and ringing has begun. Please hold the following days and times for our rehearsals.

- Children's Choir, for anyone in Grades K-2, meets Wednesdays, from 5:00 PM -5:40 PM.
- Junior Choir, for anyone in Grades 3-8, meets Wednesdays, from 5:45 PM to 6:30 PM.
- Youth Choir, for anyone in Grades 9-12, meets Sundays, from 11:15 AM to 11:45 AM.
- Sanctuary Choir, for anyone in Grades 7-adult, meets Thursdays, from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM.
- Handbell Choir, for anyone in Grades 7-adult, meets Mondays, from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM.

For questions about any of the choirs please contact **Abby Palmisano**, **Organist and Director of Music**. September is a great time of year to try it out.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE INVITES YOU TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS – First: Congregational Life invites you to the first night of SOUP GROUP! Join in the fun on Friday, October 14th, 6:30-8 in Carmel Hall. This fun Fellowship time will offer an opportunity to busy your hands and fill your heart. We will be working together on care projects and 'caretaking' of each other. This monthly event is designed to provide the time and space for just being together with a wonderful bonus—helping others. Congregational Life will provide a simple meal and tasks that can support organizations with 'mission in mind.' We continue the emphasis on mission by providing to-go soup and salad and would like to organize delivery to folks who can't join us but could use a warm meal once in a while. What to bring? A willing heart, an empty belly, and all of your ideas to help make sure this new Soup Group is a hit! Please contact Melissa Deacon(mdeacon782@comcast.net) to let us know you're coming.

And, **second**, we hope you can join us Sunday, October 23rd for a **Fall-Themed Brunch** immediately following the service. Keeping it simple, we'll take coffee hour up a notch and celebrate the changing seasons. Please contact Melissa Deacon (mdeacon782@comcast.net) to let us know you're coming.

**SPREAD THE WORD – CARMEL NURSERY SCHOOL CLASSES UNDER WAY –** The **Carmel Nursery School** began Fall school classes for the school year. There are still some openings for this year's **Registration**. If you have a neighbor or see a family who might need nursery school, share our information with them. We offer affordable classes for ages 2 years 7 months to age 5 during school hours are 9:30 am to 12:00 noon. Our **website** can be found on the <u>www.presbycarmel.org</u> page and we can be found on **Facebook** at **Carmel Nursery School**.

"CHRIST IS CALLING" FOR MEDICAL SUPPLIES PROJECT FOR UKRAINE – Our CHRIST IS CALLING ministry for Ukraine continues with medical supplies only being accepted by the Ukrainian Education and Cultural Center in Jenkintown. Monetary donations are also accepted by the Center as well as **Presbyterian Disaster**Assistance. If you have any questions, contact Mary Ellen Thomas or Janet Simon. Thank you for your support of this mission opportunity.

**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 CPC 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.

**WONDER "WHAT'S GOING ON?" CHECK OUT CARMEL'S WEBSITE!** Explore the wealth of information at <a href="https://www.presbycarmel.org">www.presbycarmel.org</a>. 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!

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

YouTube (Carmel Presbyterian Church Glenside) at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2KnjuJryWjVkrJljIDvsRw">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2KnjuJryWjVkrJljIDvsRw</a>
Those without Internet access may phone in via the Zoom phone link: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8428511409">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8428511409</a> 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
Lynne Schutt, Liturgist
David Rice, Minute for Mission
Janet Simon, Greeter/Ushers
Kristin Waldner, Shepherd
Gates, Chancel Preparation and Emergency Procedure (CPEP) Me

Deb Gates, Chancel Preparation and Emergency Procedure (CPEP) Member Tom Bohlander, Jay Raulinaitis, Dave Rice and Kerri Strike-Stahller, Live-Streaming Operators Coffee Fellowship: Carmel Hall (11:00 AM)

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**Carmel Presbyterian Church** 

100 Edge Hill Road Glenside, PA 19038 215-887-1074 www.presbycarmel.org

# God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7



5. Save us from weak resignation To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Thy salvation Be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, Serving Thee whom we adore, Serving Thee whom we adore.

# Glory to the Father

567



\*May be sung as a canon.

### God of Our Life

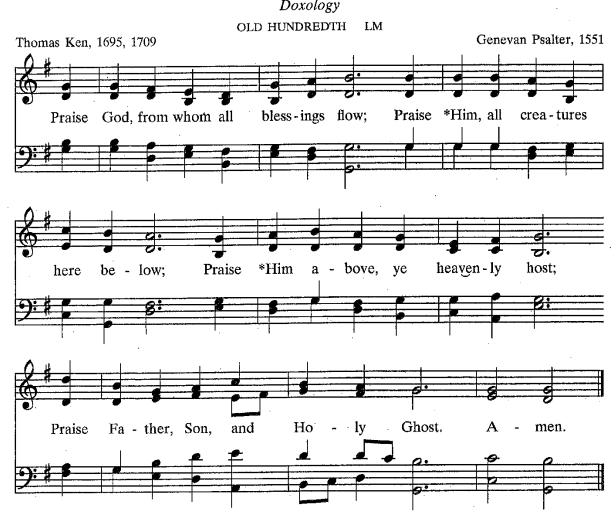
SANDON 10.4.10.4.10.10



Text: Copyright 1928, by F. M. Braselman; renewed 1956 by Presbyterian Board of Christian Education; from The Hymnal for Youth, published by Westminster Press.
Music: Harmonization © 1990 John Weaver. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

\* Or "God."

# 592 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



## 260

Rhythmic version, 259

# A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN' FESTE BURG (isometric) 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7

