

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

JULY 18, 2021

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

How Firm a Foundation
Based on the hymn tune FOUNDATION

Arranged by Anna Laura Page

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come,
you who are weary.
Come,
you who are anxious.
Come,
you who are uncertain.
Come,
you who are burdened.
Come away
to a deserted place,
to a restful place,
to a renewal place,
to a grace-full place,
with Jesus.

HYMN

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above,
the Ancient of Eternal Days, the God of love!
The Lord, the great I am, by earth and heaven confessed,
we bow before your holy name, forever blest.

Your spirit still flows free, high surging where it will.
In prophet's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
Established is your law, and changeless it shall stand,
deep writ upon the human heart by your strong hand.

Your goodly land we seek, with peace and plenty blest,
a land of sacred liberty and Sabbath rest.
There milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound,
and trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.

You have eternal life implanted in the soul;
your love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.
We praise you, living God! We praise your holy name:
the first, the last, beyond all thought, and still the same!

CONFESSING OUR SIN

God of mercy, our need is great. The pandemic has left us tired, anxious and uncertain. We have stretched beyond our limits and numbed ourselves to our pain. We have accepted getting by as good enough. We have rejected your offers of spiritual food as unrealistic and impractical. Help us, Holy God, to acknowledge and confess our need. Help us embrace your command for Sabbath rest. Help us care for ourselves so we can continue to care for others.

Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

JOYFUL RESPONSE

Glory Be to the Father
Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

GLORIA PATRI

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

David McCowen

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 23:1-6

MUSICAL OFFERING

GOSPEL READING

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

CHILDREN'S LESSON

SERMON

Life Interrupted

Rev. Camille LeBron Powell

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from a *Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves
and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF GOD'S CHURCH, COMMUNITY AND WORLD

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 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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Offertory Response

Give Thanks

GIVE THANKS

Give thanks with a grateful heart;
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. (2x)
Give thanks. Give thanks.

Prayer of Dedication

HYMN

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.
Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

Continued

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

BENEDICTION IN MUSIC

Prélude

Jean-Phillippe Rameau



Notes on Today's Music

The text of How Firm a Foundation was first published in London in 1787. The identity of the author of this popular text - identified only as "K" - is one of the unsolved mystery of 18th century English hymnody.

The composer of the music is also unknown. It first appeared in *A Compilation of Genuine Church Music* edited by Joseph Funk (Winchester, Virginia, 1832) where the name of the tune was PROTECTION. This tune, now known as FOUNDATION, is one of most well-known and popular from the shaped note repertory. This setting is by Anna Laura Page (b. 1943), active as a composer, clinician, and organist. Her publications include choral works for children, youth and adults, and compositions for handbells, organ, and piano.

The basis of the text of "The God of Abraham Praise" dates from the pen of the 12th century rabbi Moses Maimonides. The current English words convey the essence of the canticle Yigdal Ewlohim chai ve'yishtabach, a set of thirteen articles of Jewish faith which speak to the nature of God.

The tune is a 17th century Jewish melody adapted by Meyer Lyon (1751-1796) and Thomas Olivers (1725-1799).

The text for "Called as Partners In Christ's Service" was written by Jane Parker Huber (1926-2008) as a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion.

The tune was composed by John Zundel (1815-1882) who was the organist at Plymouth Congregational Church in Brooklyn, New York where the well-known and influential Henry Ward Beecher was the pastor, thus the source of the tune's name.

The Benediction in Music is from the collection *Premier Livre de Pieces de Clavecin* (First Book of Pieces for the Harpsichord) by Jean-Philippe Rameau, published in Paris in 1706. The four composers considered the apex of their national schools of the Baroque Period (1600-1750) were all born within two years of each other; France: Jean-Philippe Rameau (1683-1764); England: George Frederick Handel (1685-1759); Germany: Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750); Italy: Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757). Rameau is best known today for his harpsichord music, operas, and works in other theatrical genres but in his lifetime also famous as a music theorist.

The "Prélude" is written in an unmeasured or non-measured style, meaning there are no bar lines in the music. The duration of each note is left to the interpretation of the performer. Typically the term is used for 17th- 18th century harpsichord compositions that are written without rhythm or meter indications. In this piece the free, unmeasured section is followed by a section in 12/8.