

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

AUGUST 15, 2021

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Ich ruf' zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ
I Call to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Johann Sebastian Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Here in this space,
we wear our hearts on our sleeves.

There is no use in filters or walls.

This space is an authentic space.

This space is a brave space.

For when it comes to God,

we are always invited to bring our full selves into the room.

So come into this space with your hurt and your joy,
your prayers and your dreams.

All of God's children are welcome here.

Let us worship Holy God.

HYMN

Be Still, My Soul

FINLANDIA

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide,
who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
to guide the future surely as the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever with the Lord;
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

CONFESSING OUR SIN

I've been meaning to ask...

How are you?

What has your year been like?

Did you know that I have been thinking of you?

I have been meaning to ask...

Is your mom okay?

Did your sister find a job?

Did you ever think we'd still be here?

I've been meaning to ask...

Did it get easier?

Did the grief subside?

Were you ever able to sleep at night?

I've been meaning to ask but I haven't—

Because it's hard.

Because I want to say the right thing.

Continued

**Because I'm not sure what you need.
I've been meaning to ask, so I'm sorry for my silence.
Forgive me. Show me where it hurts.
Let's start again.**

Family of faith, we could all use some practice in asking where it hurts.
Take a moment of silent prayer to think of the people in your world,
in your lives, who may need you to reach out and ask. Give their names to God.

Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession

Trusting that God hears all things, we say together:
Amen

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**We are seen. We are heard. We are loved. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God for this endless grace. Amen.**

JOYFUL RESPONSE

O God, You Are My God

STEP BY STEP

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you. (2x)
I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways.
And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Margaret Ellingson

GOSPEL READING

Mark 5:21-43

MUSICAL OFFERING

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 1:1-18

CHILDREN'S LESSON

SERMON

I've Been Meaning to Ask... Where Does it Hurt? Rev. Camille LeBron Powell

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

On my best days,
I believe that God is there—standing in the sun with me,
laughing a contagious laugh and cheering me on.
On my hardest days,
I believe that God is there—standing in the rain with me,
holding me up and sharing in my grief.
No matter where I go—
in joy or in loss,
in pain or in love,
in heartache or in gratitude—
I believe that God is there,
leaning in, noticing where it hurts,
and carrying me through it.
And so, I believe we are called
to care for each other
as God cares for us.
On your best days in the sun
and on your worst days in the rain,
I will do my best
to be there for you too. Amen.

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

A Grateful Heart

ROCKINGHAM

A grateful heart is what I bring; a song of praise my offering
Among the saints I lift my voice: in you, O God, I will rejoice

Prayer of Dedication

HYMN

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

WALK WITH ME

I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

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

A Covenant of Grace

O WALY WALY

We all have wounds that no one sees
Oppression, trauma, and disease
When we bear witness to the pain
It can begin to heal again

Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, and Affirmation of Faith by Sarah Are
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Notes on Today's Music

The setting for the **Opening Voluntary** was composed by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). It is another chorale from the *Orgelbüchlein* (*Little Organ Book*), a set of 46 chorale preludes for organ. They are intended as introductions for the hymn to be sung. Bach originally planned for a collection of 164 settings of existing Lutheran chorale tunes sung during the Church year so that each part of the year was represented.

The text for **Be Still, My Soul**, originally titled *Stille, mein Wille! Dein Jesus hilft siegen* (Silence, my will! Your Jesus helps to win), was written by Katharina von Schlegel (1697-1752). First published in a German collection of spiritual songs 1752, the original poem has six stanzas. Most present-day hymnals have reduced the number to three or four. This meditative text seems to be rooted in Psalm 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God."

The melody is from the tone poem "Finlandia" (hence the name of the tune) composed by Jean Sibelius (1865-1957). The tune and text were first joined in the United Kingdom Presbyterian collection *The Church Hymnary* (London, 1927).

O God, You Are My God, written and composed by David Strasser (b. 1964) in 1991, became the refrain for a longer song with three stanzas, which were written by Rich Mullins (1955-1997), an American contemporary Christian music singer and songwriter.

The text for the **Offertory Response** was written by David Gambrell (b. 1972) to be used with the tune ROCKINGHAM for our *Glory to God* hymnal. The composer of the tune is unknown; it was adapted by Edward Miller (1731-1807) who was an English musician and composer and was first published in *Musica Sacra* (Bath, c.1778).

The tune and text of **I Want Jesus to Walk with Me** are from the African-American spiritual tradition of work or field songs. The place of this song in the spiritual tradition is unclear, as it does not appear in any of the early collections. Somewhat similar words appear among the collection by Dorothy Bolton and Harry Burleigh in 1929.

This tune was arranged by Nolan Williams, Jr. (b. 1969). The minor tonality does not signify sadness; instead it shows an of intensity of feeling. It is very much connected with the same sensibility that emerges in the blues.