

# St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

AUGUST 22, 2021

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## WELCOME

## OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart*

Based on the hymn tune MORECAMBE

Fredrick Atkinson  
Setting by Roy Brunner

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Family of faith, this must be the place.

**This is the place for connection and growth,  
for community and hope.**

This must be the place for questions like,  
“Where are you from?” and, “What do you need?”  
For whispers of: “I’ve been thinking of you,”  
and, “I’ve been meaning to ask. . .”

**This must be the place, because all belong here.**

**All of each of us is welcome here.**

**All hurt and joy, needs and prayers,  
dreams and love, are welcome here.**

God is near. Let us worship Holy God.

## HYMN

*Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*

SERVANT SONG

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey; we’re together on the road.  
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear.  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I’ll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow till we’ve seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we’ve known together of Christ’s love and agony.

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

## CONFESSING OUR SIN

**Gracious God,**

**sometimes life feels like cooking with flour—**

**it looks like it should be easy, but we always make a mess.**

**This is particularly true when it comes to our relationships.**

**We so desperately long to say the right thing,**

**to be the right thing,**

**to find the right solution,**

**that we overstep the line.**

**Forgive us for assuming the place you fill.**

**Forgive us for imagining that we, in all our humanity,  
could possibly fix all the hurt in this world.**

**Instead, give us the grace and the strength to stand by our loved ones in their moments of need to  
witness their hurt without trying to fix it.**

**You are God. We are not. Teach us how to be a friend.**

**Teach us how to ask, “What do you need?”**

**Teach us how to point to you.**

**Gratefully we pray.**

*Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession*

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**Every day is a new day for love.**

**We are claimed. We are forgiven.**

**We are invited into relationship.**

**Thanks be to God for growth and grace that know no end. Amen.**

## JOYFUL RESPONSE

*Great Are You Lord*

GREAT IS THE LORD

Great are you, Lord: you are holy and just;  
by your power we trust in your love.  
Great are you, Lord: you are faithful and true;  
by your mercy you prove you are love.  
Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory!  
Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise.  
Great are you, Lord. We lift up our voice;  
we lift up our voice: great are you, Lord!  
Great are you, Lord!

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

David McCowen

## HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Job 2:11-13

## MUSICAL OFFERING

## EPISTLE READING

2 Timothy 4:9-18

## CHILDREN'S LESSON

## SERMON

*I've Been Meaning to Ask... What Do You Need?* Rev. Camille LeBron Powell

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in relationships.

We believe in asking hard questions,  
in showing up for one another,  
and in sitting together through the pain.

We believe in listening with grace,  
learning with curiosity,  
and apologizing with sincerity.

We believe in asking for help,  
saying what we need,  
and trusting that no degree of vulnerability  
could strip us of God's love.

We believe in trying our best  
and offering grace  
when our best is not enough.

And we believe that God is in all relationships—  
modeling for us the value of community  
through the relationships of the Trinity.

So we love today,  
and we strive to love  
even more tomorrow.

Let it be so. 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

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore.

HOPSON

### Prayer of Dedication

## HYMN

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*  
Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.  
  
Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.  
Where there is darkness, only light,  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.  
  
O, Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.  
  
Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving of ourselves that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

## 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*  
We all need people who will be  
with us in solidarity  
No explanation, no defense  
Just ministry of their presence

O WALY WALY

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

The musical basis for the **Opening Voluntary** is the hymn tune MORECAMBE composed by Frederick Cook Atkinson (1841-1896) and first published in the *Congregational Church Hymnal* (London, 1887). He is said to have originally created this tune for "Abide with Me" for use in the parish where he was then organist in a town in northern England. The tune name is after a Lancashire city on the northwest coast of England.

Roy Brunner (b. 1945), an American composer and organist who is currently organist of historic Park Street Church (Congregational) on the Boston Common. He recently retired as Professor of Music at Gordon College, Wenham, Massachusetts.

The words and music of **Will You Let Me Be Your Servant** were written and composed by Richard Gillard (b. 1953) and first published in *New Harvest* (Auckland, New Zealand, 1979). The author has indicated that the primary inspiration for this text was the account of Jesus' washing of the disciples feet, John 13:2b-17. Gilliard was born in England, but he emigrated to New Zealand with his family when he was three years old. He writes, "I've had almost no formal musical training. I'm a self-taught guitarist and play mostly in a folk style."

The **Joyful Response**, first published and recorded in 1983, this praise song was written and composed by the husband and wife team of Michael W. Smith (b. 1957) and Deborah D. Smith (b. 1958).

The text of **Make Me a Channel of Your Peace** is an adaptation of the famous prayer by Sebastian Temple (1928-1997). Although the prayer is often attributed to Francis of Assisi, there is no evidence of a connection to him other than the tone of the prayer agrees with his life and witness. The music was also composed by Temple and first published with the text in *Happy the Man: 13 Songs of Peace and Brotherhood* (Cincinnati, 1967).