



# First Presbyterian Church

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

July 12, 2020 at 10:00

*During this service, we will be celebrating the Lord's Supper. You are invited to bring to worship whatever bread and drink you have available in your home to join us in Communion, trusting that God can do mysterious and miraculous things with ordinary objects like bread and juice and in ordinary places like our own homes.*

## We Gather to Worship God

**PRELUDE** "It is Well with My Soul"—Jay Rouse Mark Cole

### LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

**WELCOME** Doug Gerdts and Nikki Passante

**OPENING SENTENCES** Psalm 119:105, 111 Peter Leibensperger

One: Your word is a lamp to our feet  
and a light to our path.

**All: Your word is our heritage forever,  
the joy of our hearts.**

**MUSIC** Meditations on LEONI "The God of Abraham Praise" (page 7 below)

### CALL TO CONFESSION

One: The Scriptures are shot through with stories  
of people just like us: men who grieved, women who questioned, siblings who did not get along,  
parents who chose favorites.  
God's word of grace is meant for people just like us.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: Patient and persistent God, we come, polished and presentable,  
to this comfortable room as if we knew what to expect, as if this were a safe and predictable  
place, as if we could simply observe.**

**Holy One, forgive our tepid expectations.**

**In the mystery of your love, overshadow us. Plant the seeds of your gospel in each of our  
hearts until we bloom and spill with your passion to serve in a world that is wasting. Amen.**

### SILENT REFLECTION

### DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. The Spirit of God  
dwells in you. If you hear nothing else today, hear these words: there is no condemnation.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and set free to begin life anew. Amen!**

## SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

## LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

### We Listen to the Word

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

One: Comforting God, by your Holy Spirit lift the burdens from our souls through the reading of your Word for us, that we may learn to live in a loving relationship with you. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE

*Genesis 25:19-34*

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger."

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

One: Holy wisdom, holy word.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## CHILDREN'S GREETING AND RECOGNITION OF DEACONS' SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

### ANTHEM

"Immortal, Invisible, God only Wise"

Connor and Kaelynn Jackson

### SERMON

"The Little Rascal"

Dr. Gerdts

## We Respond in Faith

### CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### Invitation

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

*A Celtic liturgy designed by John Philip Newell*

Great Creator Spirit, from whom all life comes forth: here we gather again with bread and juice seeking your presence, longing once more to be nourished, hungering for wholeness in our lives, for unity on earth and for peace among the nations.

Here we gather with bread and with juice, but with more than bread and juice.

With everything that we see and sense around us, with visible and invisible energies that pulse with life, we join our souls in the song that vibrates throughout the whole of creation.

Into our brokenness came the memory of wholeness.

Into our sickness came the medicine of grace.

Into our fear came the revelation of love.

Christ born among us,

One of us,

Child of heaven,

Son of womankind,

Bearer of forgiveness,

Healer of our nature,

Restorer of wisdom,

Liberator of the oppressed,

Rejected by the religious,

Scorned by the state,

Suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Heart of humanity,

Soul of creation,

Lamb of God.

Come upon us with your Holy Spirit, O God, and upon this bread and this juice, that they may be vibrant with your presence, nurturing what is deepest within us, and making us again one body. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ.

Hear us now, O God, as we pray the prayer Christ taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

#### Distribution of the Elements

##### Breaking of the Bread

For in the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to God, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take, eat: This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me!"

##### Pouring of the Cup

In the same way, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and after giving thanks, gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This cup is the new covenant sealed with my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

Fugue in g minor BWV 558—J.S. Bach

Mark Cole, organ



**WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN HADDONFIELD ONLINE!** God is present wherever people gather—even virtually. Please be in touch if you have news to share or would like more information or to talk to a pastor. Contact information below.

### MUSIC NOTES FOR JULY 12:

#### **Prelude “It is Well with My Soul”**

The words of this hymn were penned by Horatio Spafford after traumatic events in his life. The first was the death of his four-year old son in the great Chicago Fire of 1871. The second was the death of his daughters while crossing the Atlantic Ocean on the *SS Ville du Havre*, which collided with a sea vessel, the *Loch Earn* and sank. The tune was composed by Philip Paul Bliss in 1876. Bliss was an American gospel hymn writer. “It is Well with My Soul” is his most famous composition.

#### **Anthem “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”**

This hymn was originally published under this Scripture: “Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen” (1 Timothy 1:17). After paraphrasing this verse in the first stanza, the author goes on to elaborate on the themes of light, immortality, and glory. For our anthem this morning, Connor and Kaelynn will perform verse 1 and verse 4 of this hymn in an arrangement composed specially for them.

#### **“The God of Abraham Praise”**

This hymn comes from a Jewish creedal doxology that is sung during the Sabbath eve service every week in some traditions. Thomas Olivers (1725–1799) made a Christological translation around 1770, from which these stanzas are taken. The hymn begins by praising God for His might and power, as displayed through His relationship with His people, and ends by declaring God’s eternal steadfastness throughout the ages.

#### **“All Creatures of Our God and King”**

In this hymn a great text is matched by an equally strong and effective tune. LASST UNS ERFREUEN (Let Us Rejoice) derives its opening line and several other melodic ideas from GENEVAN 68, which can be found as hymn 226 of our hymnal if you’d like to compare them. The tune was first published with an Easter text in a Jesuit hymnal in 1623. The harmonization is by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 – 1958); first published in *The English Hymnal* (1906), it has become the most popular version of LASST UNS ERFREUEN. In that hymnal the tune was set to Athelstan Riley's “Ye watchers and ye holy ones” (thus it is sometimes known as VIGILES ET SANCTI).

#### **Postlude**

The Fugue in g minor, BWV 558, from the Eight Little Preludes and Fugues is attributed to J.S. Bach (1685-1750). These works, written for keyboard and pedal, are now believed to have been composed by one of Bach’s students “Johann Tobias Krebs,” or his son “Johann Ludwig Krebs.” In musical terms: a fugue is a contrapuntal composition in which a short melody or phrase (the subject) is introduced by one part and successively taken up by others and developed by interweaving the parts.

**RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN’S SUNDAY PARTICIPATION** – Each week Youth Director Gab Heimerling emails out a story and activities for friends in preschool through 2nd grade. Contact her at gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org to get on the email list. Resources can also be accessed on the website.

**DRIVE-THROUGH OFFERING** continues in the church parking lot each week between 11 and noon on Sunday mornings. (For online giving, use <https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyter11244/Give>.)

**SPECIAL REQUEST FOR BOTTLED WATER** – Cathedral Kitchen has asked for donations of bottled water, any size and any quantity from a 6-pack to a case. Bring to church drive-through or drop off on Ed Hess’s porch: 15 W. Mt. Vernon Ave., Haddonfield.

**THANK YOU FOR KEEPING UP YOUR DRIVE-THROUGH DONATIONS!** You are helping to sustain many of our neighbors. **Continuing needs** are peanut butter, tuna, pasta, sauce, adult diapers – medium or large, feminine hygiene pads, bar soap, and toothpaste. Pet supplies are back on the list: dog food, cat food, and cat litter. And don’t forget grocery bags, especially paper. Thank you for your love and caring!

**ARE YOU SIGNED UP FOR THE WEEKLY EMAIL?** Each Thursday, church news, calendar, and information are emailed to all members and interested parties. Doug and Anne did their best to get everyone included on the email list, but we know a couple of you were missed. If you didn’t receive this week’s news, check your junk mail. If it’s not there, send Anne or Doug an email and you will be added to the list. The email is being sent via Mailchimp, return address is [support@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:support@haddonfieldpres.org).

**PASTOR NIKKI’S ZOOM BIBLE STUDY RESUMES JULY 16th!** Pastor Nikki’s Thursday Bible study continues its exploration of the Gospel of Mark. Discussions take place on Thursdays at 7 p.m. on Zoom: [us02web.zoom.us/j/87502910885](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87502910885). **You don’t need a special invitation.** This link will work every week, no password needed. Join Nikki for a time of fellowship and discussion!

**INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY WITH DOUG** – Every Tuesday morning at 8:00 a.m. join Doug for a conversation about the scripture that will be the text for the following Sunday’s sermon. The format is simple: Doug will present for about 20 minutes and then open things up to questions, reflections, responses, and general wonderings about the text. For this Tuesday, July 14th, the focus is on Ps 139. Here’s the Zoom [link](#) — hope to see you there!

**THE PANDEMIC FAMILY GROUP TAKES THIS WEEK OFF** – This is a small group geared towards parents and young couples to share stories and struggles with scripture in hand. Meetings are in 3-week blocks with a break in between. The next meeting is Wednesday, July 22 at 8:00 p.m. on Zoom. Contact Gab Heimerling for the link: [gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org). You are welcome to jump in anytime you like – if you just need to talk, to be around other people, to pray or to hear how others are coping – you are invited.

**THE PORCH BIBLE STUDY** will meet on Zoom at 7 p.m. on July 22. We will take August off and resume on Wednesday, September 16th. We will continue working through Pastor Max Lucado’s study: Jesus: The God Who Knows Your Name. If anyone would like Kristin Carberry to add them to our Zoom email list, they should contact me at [debranusbaum1987@gmail.com](mailto:debranusbaum1987@gmail.com).

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE CHURCH BUILDING IS CLOSED** – No one should enter the building. If a staff member has given you permission to be there, you must wear a mask and gloves.

**THIS WEEK’S FPCH BLOG** – Go to <http://www.haddonfieldpres.org/blog.aspx> to read Anne Vial’s reflection on “Radical Kindness.”

**SUNDAY SERVICES ARE NOW STREAMING VIA FACEBOOK LIVE AND THE WEBSITE!**

Follow the church on Instagram and Facebook – See activities, photos, inspirational messages, and links to interesting articles. Instagram: [fpch\\_1906](https://www.instagram.com/fpch_1906) and Facebook: [@FirstPresbyNJ](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyNJ)

**SCRIPTURE FOR SUNDAY, JULY 19, AND DOUG'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: Psalm 139**

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.  
 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.  
 You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.  
 Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.  
 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.  
 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.  
 Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?  
 If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.  
 If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,  
 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.  
 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,"  
 even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light  
 to you.  
 For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I  
 know very well.  
 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in  
 the depths of the earth.  
 Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were  
 formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.  
 How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!  
 I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.  
 O that you would kill the wicked, O God, and that the bloodthirsty would depart from me—  
 those who speak of you maliciously, and lift themselves up against you for evil!  
 Do I not hate those who hate you, O Lord? And do I not loathe those who rise up against you?  
 I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies.  
 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.  
 See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

**Church Staff**

The Rev. Dr. Douglas D. Gerdts, Transitional Senior Pastor and Head of Staff – [doug@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:doug@haddonfieldpres.org)

The Rev. Nikki Passante, Associate Pastor – [npassante@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:npassante@haddonfieldpres.org)

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Nancy Ruth Wainwright, Director of Children's Choirs – [nancyruthw@comcast.net](mailto:nancyruthw@comcast.net)

Mark Cole, Organist – [mcole@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:mcole@haddonfieldpres.org)

Gabrielle Heimerling, Director of Youth and Family Ministries – [gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org)

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Anne Vial, Office Administrator – [avial@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:avial@haddonfieldpres.org)

Rebecca Mannion, Receptionist – [rmannion@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:rmannion@haddonfieldpres.org)

Mike Richardson, Custodian

Mark Hall, Security

## MORNING AND OPENING HYMNS

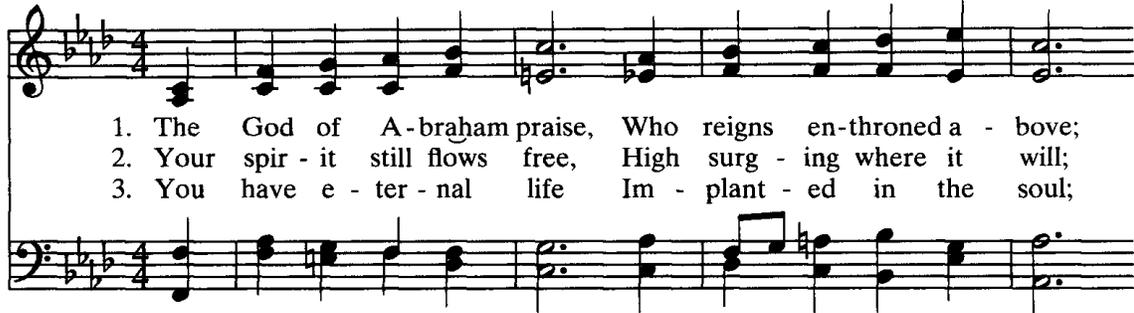
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## The God of Abraham Praise

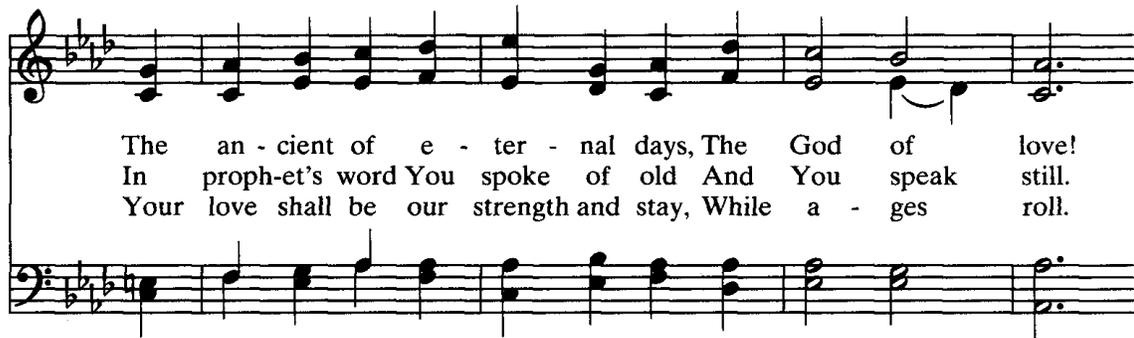
LEONI 6.6.8.4 D

Daniel ben Judah, 1404

Trans. Max Landsberg and Newton Mann, 1885; alt.

Hebrew melody  
Adapt. Thomas Olivers  
and Meyer Lyon, 1770


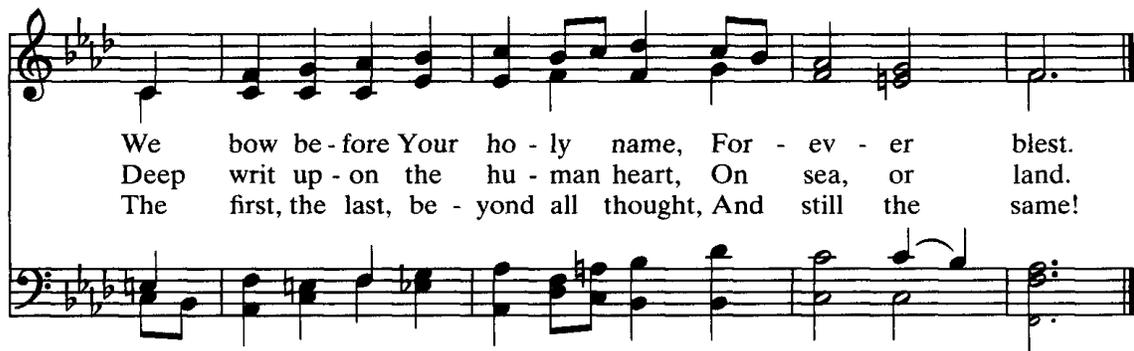
1. The God of A-braham praise, Who reigns en-throned a - bove;  
2. Your spir - it still flows free, High surg - ing where it will;  
3. You have e - ter - nal life Im - plant - ed in the soul;



The an - cient of e - ter - nal days, The God of love!  
In proph-et's word You spoke of old And You speak still.  
Your love shall be our strength and stay, While a - ges roll.



The Lord, the great I Am, By earth and heaven con - fessed,  
Es - tab - lished is Your law, And change-less it shall stand,  
We praise You, liv - ing God! We praise Your ho - ly name;



We bow be - fore Your ho - ly name, For - ev - er blest.  
Deep writ up - on the hu - man heart, On sea, or land.  
The first, the last, be - yond all thought, And still the same!

## CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

## 15 All Creatures of Our God and King

*Unison*



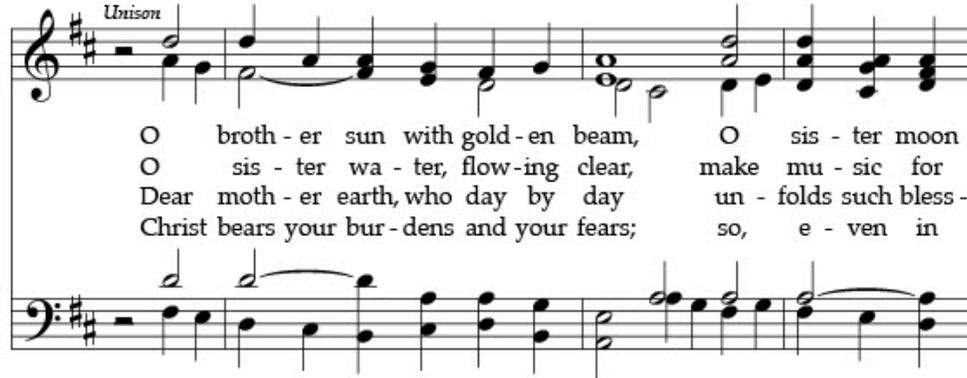
1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice  
 2 O broth-er wind with clouds and rain, you nur-ture gifts  
 3 O broth-er fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shad-  
 4 All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain

*Harmony*



and with us sing, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
 of fruit and grain. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
 ows of the night. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
 or sor-row grieve, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

*Unison*



O broth-er sun with gold-en beam, O sis-ter moon  
 O sis-ter wa-ter, flow-ing clear, make mu-sic for  
 Dear moth-er earth, who day by day un-folds such bless-  
 Christ bears your bur-dens and your fears; so, e-ven in

Sometimes called "The Canticle of the Sun," this cosmic roll call allows human beings to give voice to all creation. One of the earliest religious poems in the Italian language, it is made even more expansive by this broad, repetitive melody with interspersed "Alleluias."

TEXT: Francis of Assisi, 1225; trans. composite  
 MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng.* 1623, alt.; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
 LM with alleluias  
 (this tune in a higher key, 327)

## CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

*Harmony*

with sil - ver gleam, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 your Lord to hear. Sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ings on our way, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 the midst of tears, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Unison*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,  
 waiting to hush our final breath:  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,  
 fair is the night that leads us home.  
 Sing praises! Alleluia!  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,  
 and worship God with humble heart.  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,  
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
 Sing praises! Alleluia!  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!