

# Ocean Heights

Presbyterian Church



A More Light Presbyterian Congregation joyfully welcoming people from all walks of life, celebrating the difference of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and ability of all people as children of God.

May 16, 2021  
7th Sunday of Easter

## **GOD CALLS US TO GATHER**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE An Asian Melody

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, O Creator, O Immensity of love, O Eternity of mercy. Come, and be with us and in us and beside us and over us. Be as hands upon us, and fashion us for shining. Be as warmth within us, and fire us for caring. Be as strength beside us, and shape our lives for healing. Abide in our prayers, the spoken and the unspoken; and make your Word come true in our flesh; through Christ Jesus. Amen.

HYMN By Whatever Name We Call You  
(Text—Dosia Carlson)

By whatever name we call you, Fashioner of spheres  
you are grander, so much wiser than our minds perceive.  
Labels limit understanding, God you have no peers.  
So, we question—changing, growing—wanting to believe.

In whatever way we worship, Mystery divine,  
you are only dimly known through ritual and creed.  
Though we try to capture you in symbol or in sign,  
only as we let you be can longing hearts be freed.

*Gathering for Worship  
reminds us of God's Holy  
Breath that breathed us to life  
and is an occasion for us to  
share the love of God.*

In whatever gifts we offer, All-inclusive One,  
you accept your own creation, fragments we return.  
Not as owners but as stewards is our giving done.  
In true wonder we receive the love we cannot earn.

## **JOURNEY OF RECONCILIATION AND HEALING**

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER FOR RECONCILIATION

**God of healing  
God of wholeness  
we bring our brokenness  
our sinfulness  
our fears  
and despairs  
and lay them at your feet**

**God of healing  
God of wholeness  
we hold out our hearts and hands  
minds and souls  
to feel your touch  
and know the peace  
that only you can bring**

**God of healing  
God of wholeness  
in this precious moment  
in your presence and power  
grant us faith and confidence  
that here broken lives  
are made whole**

GATHERED IN SILENCE IN THE COMPANY OF OTHERS

SUNG RESPONSE    God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me  
*(stanzas 1 and 5)*

**1. God, be the love to search and keep me;  
God, be the prayer to move my voice;  
God, be the strength to now uphold me:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.**

**5. Christ in the eyes of all who see me,  
Christ in the ears that hear my voice,  
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.**

WORDS OF RECONCILIATION

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*(May the Peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.)*

## **GOD'S GRACE WRITTEN AND SPOKEN**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Psalm 4

*Scripture reading from the  
Inclusive Bible.*

Answer me when I call, God of my justice!  
Give me relief from my distress!  
Have mercy!  
Hear my prayer!

How long will you people dishonor me before God?  
How long will you love delusion and pursue lies?  
Know that those who love God have been set apart by divine will –  
God will hear me when I call!  
Tremble, and stop your sinning; search your heart,  
alone and silent in your room.  
Offer sacrifices of justice,  
and put your trust in God.

So many are asking, “Does good even exist anymore?”  
Let the light of your face, God, shine on us!  
You put joy in my heart – a joy greater than being full  
of bread and wine.  
In peace I’ll lie down;  
in peace I will sleep:  
for you alone, God,  
keep me perfectly safe.

SMALL TALK

EPISTLE LESSON

1 John 5: 9-13

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that God has testified to God’s Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made God a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning God’s Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life and this life is in God’s Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

SERMON

God Has Many Names

Rev. Dr. Jeff Eaton

A SUNG RESPONSE

Bring Many Names  
(Text—Brian Wren)

Bring many names, beautiful and good,  
celebrate, in parable and story,  
in glory, living, loving God.  
Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names!

Great, living God, never fully known,  
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,  
yet than breathing, everlasting home:  
Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!

**Small Talk**—For all those young at heart we provide a small talk, a brief, informal re-telling of scripture, or explanation of worship or aspect of the faith journey.

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

**By the grace of God, the people of Ocean Heights Presbyterian Church, a member congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), gather for worship and ministry in the name of Christ.**

**We joyfully welcome people from all walks of life, celebrating the difference of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and ability of all people as children of God.**

**We strive to be the body of Christ in the world, working for peace and justice for all persons. We join with people of good faith to address the threats of climate change and the degradation of God's good creation.**

**As a progressive Christian congregation, we endeavor to understand and practice the faith we have from scripture, informed by the wisdom of science and the theological and cultural diversity of the world's people.**

**We give thanks to God for the community we share in worship and ministry for the sake of a world where love is more possible.**

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **BENEDICTION**

***Mission Statement:** This Mission Statement for Ocean Heights Presbyterian Church was adopted by the Session on Tuesday, May 28, 2019.*

# God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

O Christ, Surround Me



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
 2 Bind to my-self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -  
 3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light-ning,  
 4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to  
 5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:  
 es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:  
 strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:  
 light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:  
 hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

This hymn is a 21st-century adaptation of the traditional Celtic prayer style known as a *lorica* (Latin for "armor" or "breastplate"). Many such petitions for God's presence and protection were never written down, but this one is based on an example attributed to St. Patrick.