



## First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood Online Worship

### Sixth Sunday of Easter – May 17, 2020

#### PRELUDE

#### THE WELCOME & SHARING OF CHURCH LIFE

#### TOLLING OF THE HOUR

#### CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

This is the good news which we proclaim to you.

**Jesus Christ is raised from the dead!**

Walk in the light of his love.

**Live in the light of his teachings and healing mercies.**

Come, let us worship the One who overcame death.

**Let us celebrate the triumph of our Lord.**

May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts,

**Be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.**

#### HYMN #463

"How Firm a Foundation"

(Please sing!)

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <p>1 How firm a foundation,<br/>ye saints of the Lord,<br/>is laid for your faith in<br/>God's excellent Word!<br/>What more can be said<br/>than to you God hath said,<br/>to you who for refuge<br/>to Jesus have fled?</p>         | <p>3 "When through the deep waters<br/>I call thee to go,<br/>the rivers of sorrow<br/>shall not overflow;<br/>for I will be near thee,<br/>thy troubles to bless,<br/>and sanctify to thee<br/>thy deepest distress.</p>        | <p>5 "The soul that on Jesus<br/>hath leaned for repose,<br/>I will not, I will not<br/>desert to its foes;<br/>that soul, though all hell<br/>should endeavor to shake,<br/>I'll never, no, never,<br/>no, never forsake."</p> |
| <p>2 "Fear not, I am with thee,<br/>O be not dismayed,<br/>for I am thy God,<br/>and will still give thee aid;<br/>I'll strengthen thee, help thee,<br/>and cause thee to stand,<br/>upheld by my righteous,<br/>omnipotent hand.</p> | <p>4 "When through fiery trials<br/>thy pathway shall lie,<br/>my grace, all sufficient,<br/>shall be thy supply;<br/>the flame shall not hurt thee;<br/>I only design<br/>thy dross to consume,<br/>and thy gold to refine.</p> |   |

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Far too often, O God, we desire to look wise in the eyes of the world.  
We have not spoken truth with our hearts. We have not loved as you love.  
We have said and done hurtful things to our friends.  
We have forgotten our true identity,  
wandering into ways that are not yours.  
We have lost the path of true worship,  
focusing on form and words rather than deeds.  
We have forgotten what true discipleship is.  
And because of this, you have a quarrel with us.  
Forgive us and help us live into becoming the people  
you have created and called us to be:  
people of justice and love and truth and humility.  
May we be faithful to the call of Christ, embracing our true identity,  
even as we live in a contentious world of doubt and fear. Amen.

(silent confession)

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### GLORIA PATRI #581

"Glory be to the Father"

(Please sing!)



### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Holy God, may the soil of our hearts be fertile ground in which your word may  
take root. Speak to us today the word we need to hear, whether it is a word of  
comfort or conviction, courage or correction. Plant it deep within us, and bring it  
to fruition, for the sake of the Word incarnate. Amen.

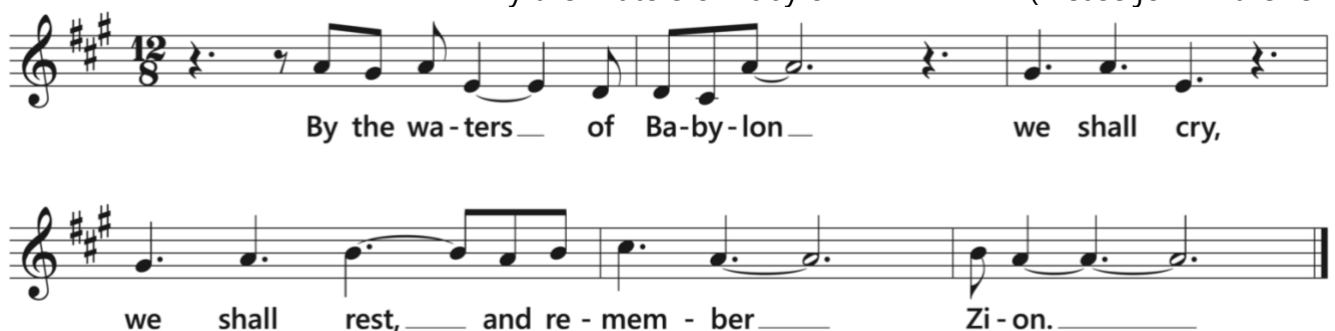
## SCRIPTURE

Psalm 137:1-6

### ANTHEM

"By the Waters of Babylon"

(Please join in the refrain)



## SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 1:24-2:10

## SERMON

**Pastor Michael Rucker**

### HYMN #321

"The Church's One Foundation"

(please sing!)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 The church's one foundation<br>is Jesus Christ her Lord.<br>She is his new creation<br>by water and the word.<br>From heaven he came and sought her<br>to be his holy bride.<br>With his own blood he bought her,<br>and for her life he died. | yet saints their watch are keeping;<br>their cry goes up: "How long?"<br>And soon the night of weeping<br>shall be the morn of song.  |
| 2 Elect from every nation,<br>yet one o'er all the earth,<br>her charter of salvation:<br>one Lord, one faith, one birth.<br>One holy name she blesses,<br>partakes one holy food,<br>and to one hope she presses,<br>with every grace endued.   | 4 Mid toil and tribulation,<br>and tumult of her war,<br>she waits the consummation<br>of peace forevermore:<br>till with the vision glorious<br>her longing eyes are blest,<br>and the great church victorious<br>shall be the church at rest. |
| 3 Though with a scornful wonder<br>this world sees her oppressed,<br>by schisms rent asunder,<br>by heresies distressed,   | 5 Yet she on earth has union<br>with God, the Three in One,<br>and mystic sweet communion<br>with those whose rest is won:<br>O happy ones and holy!<br>Lord, give us grace that we,<br>like them, the meek and lowly,<br>may live eternally.   |

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

**We believe in an Easter God,  
who transforms darkness into light,  
hatred into tolerance and despair into hope.  
We believe God is always working for good,  
changing every Good Friday nightmare  
into an Easter dream of new possibility.  
We believe in the risen Christ,  
who befriends us on our roads of doubt and worry;  
who touches us through song and silence, word and gesture;  
who calls us by name to enter the dance of life.  
We believe in the Spirit,  
the hidden presence behind every resurrection,  
who beckons us to leave tomblike safety and  
trust the gracious invitation to live joyfully.  
We believe the Spirit is always renewing the church  
and making us a people who practice kindness,  
encourage beauty, and work for justice and freedom.  
We believe we are an Easter people,  
a sign that with God all things are possible.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

**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.**

### CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

#### HYMN #301

"Let Us Build a House (All are Welcome)"

(Please sing!)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Let us build a house where love can dwell<br/>and all can safely live,<br/>a place where saints and children tell<br/>how hearts learn to forgive.<br/>Built of hopes and dreams and visions,<br/>rock of faith and vault of grace;<br/>here the love of Christ shall end divisions:<br/>all are welcome; all are welcome;<br/>all are welcome in this place.</p> <p>2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,<br/>and words are strong and true,<br/>where all God's children dare to seek<br/>to dream God's reign anew.<br/>Here the cross shall stand as witness<br/>and as symbol of God's grace;<br/>here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:<br/>all are welcome; all are welcome;<br/>all are welcome in this place.</p> <p>3 Let us build a house where love is found<br/>in water, wine, and wheat;<br/>a banquet hall on holy ground<br/>where peace and justice meet.<br/>Here the love of God, through Jesus,</p> | <p>is revealed in time and space;<br/>as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:<br/>all are welcome; all are welcome;<br/>all are welcome in this place.</p> <p>4 Let us build a house where hands will reach<br/>beyond the wood and stone<br/>to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,<br/>and live the Word they've known.<br/>Here the outcast and the stranger<br/>bear the image of God's face;<br/>let us bring an end to fear and danger:<br/>all are welcome; all are welcome;<br/>all are welcome in this place.</p> <p>5 Let us build a house where all are named,<br/>their songs and visions heard<br/>and loved and treasured,<br/>taught and claimed as words within the Word.<br/>Built of tears and cries and laughter,<br/>prayers of faith and songs of grace;<br/>let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:<br/>all are welcome; all are welcome;<br/>all are welcome in this place.</p> |
|--|---|

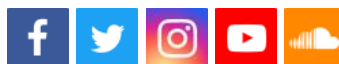
### BENEDICTION

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#### *Participants in this worship service:*

**The Rev. Michael P. Rucker**, pastor | **Shaun Cloonan**, minister of music | **Sunny Sakai**, pianist  
**Elder John Foster**, videographer

This service may be found posted on our website at [www.fpcedgewood.org](http://www.fpcedgewood.org),  
on our [YouTube channel](#), or audio only on our [SoundCloud channel](https://www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood) at  
[www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood](https://www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood)



## How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,  
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!  
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;  
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.  
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

# The Church's One Foundation 321

1 The chur-ch's one foun-da-tion is Je-sus Christ her Lord.  
 2 E-lect from ev-ery na-tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
 3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der this world sees her op-pressed,  
 4 Mid toil and trib-u-la-tion, and tu-mult of her war,  
 5 Yet she on earth has un-ion with God, the Three in One,

She is his new cre-a-tion by wa-ter and the word.  
 her char-ter of sal-va-tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.  
 by schis-ms rent a-sun-der, by her-e-sies dis-tressed,  
 she waits the con-sum-ma-tion of peace for-ev-er-more:  
 and mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion with those whose rest is won:

From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho-ly bride.  
 One ho-ly name she bless-es, par-takes one ho-ly food,  
 yet saints their watch are keep-ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
 till with the vi-sion glo-rious her long-ing eyes are blest,  
 O hap-py ones and ho-ly! Lord, give us grace that we,

With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
 and to one hope she press-es, with ev-ery grace en-dued.  
 And soon the night of weep-ing shall be the morn of song.  
 and the great church vic-to-rious shall be the church at rest.  
 like them, the meek and low-ly, may live e-ter-nal-ly.

This hymn was one of twelve written by an English curate to affirm the articles of the Apostles' Creed with biblical allusions such as 1 Corinthians 3:11 here. Though not created for this text, the tune was joined to it in 1868, and the two have been inseparable ever since.

## Let Us Build a House

All Are Welcome

Capo 3: (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (Bm)  
C7 F C F B<sup>b</sup> C Dm



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can  
 2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the  
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)  
F C F Dm7 Gm C



safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell  
 strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek  
 wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground  
 wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,  
 vi - sions heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (F#m) (Bm)  
Gm C7 B<sup>b</sup> F Am Dm



how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

(Em) (A) (D) (G)  
Gm C F B<sup>b</sup>




vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we  
 strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us  
 laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

Although it was written for a church dedication, this text is not about a physical structure but a spiritual one. The building is at best only a vessel for the essential love and hope, life and faith, peace and justice, hospitality and nurture that form the worshipping community.




*Refrain*

(D) (G) (F#7) (Bm) (Em) (Bm)  
 F B $\flat$  A7 Dm Gm Dm



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 one we claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come;  
 bring an end to fear and dan - ger:  
 house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:

(F#m) (Em) (D) (Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D)  
 Am Gm F Gm C7 F B $\flat$  F



all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.

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First Presbyterian Church of  
**EDGEWOOD**  
*The Community Church*

*Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ,  
 our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to  
 love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.*

120 East Swissvale Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15218 | 412-241-4613 | [fpcedgewood.org](http://fpcedgewood.org) | The Rev. Michael P. Rucker, pastor

