



First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood Online Worship Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 27, 2020

PRELUDE

THE WELCOME & SHARING OF CHURCH LIFE

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Listen, O people, to holy teaching; tune your ears to hear God's word.

We gather to proclaim our sacred story, to tell of God's wondrous deeds.

Come, O people, into holy space to worship the Lord, our sustainer and guide.

Let us turn to God in prayer and praise.

HYMN #401

"Gather Us In"

- 1 Here in this place the new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.
- 2 We are the young; our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.
- 3 Here we will take the wine and the water;
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons & your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion;
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away:
here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Loving Lord, you desire that we have the same mind as Christ
and imitate his compassionate service.**

But our minds are fixed on attitudes and ambitions that draw us away from you.

**We labor for ourselves and attend to the needs of a precious few
before considering how our time and talents could bless the world.**

**We look up to the rich and famous and overlook the lowly
rather than affirming the dignity of all.**

Transform us, we pray.

**By your grace, give us the same mind and the same love as our Lord Jesus Christ,
and work within us until our actions bear witness to the faith our tongues confess.**

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE #582

"Glory to God"

1 Glory to God,
whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son,
whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit,
whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

2 World without end,
without end. Amen.
World without end,
without end. Amen.
World without end,
without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 56:1-8

56 Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

² Happy is the mortal who does this,
the one who holds it fast,
who keeps the sabbath, not profaning it,
and refrains from doing any evil.

³ Do not let the foreigner joined to the Lord say,
"The Lord will surely separate me from his people";
and do not let the eunuch say,
"I am just a dry tree."

⁴ For thus says the Lord:

To the eunuchs who keep my sabbaths,
who choose the things that please me
and hold fast my covenant,

⁵ I will give, in my house and within my walls,
a monument and a name
better than sons and daughters;
I will give them an everlasting name
that shall not be cut off.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸ Thus says the Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

HYMN #301*"All Are Welcome"*

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain:

all are welcome; all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
(Refrain)

3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine, and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: (Refrain)

4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: (Refrain)

5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured,
taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: (Refrain)

SCRIPTURE

Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶ for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

SERMON

"Even" is a Very Big Word

The Rev. Kellie Weekley-Mills

HYMN #769

"For Everyone Born"

1 For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,

Refrain:

and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

2 For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair,
(Refrain)

3 For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong,
(Refrain)

4 For just and unjust, a place at the table,
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live,
(Refrain)

5 For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free,
(Refrain)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

HYMN #754

"Help Us Accept Each Other"

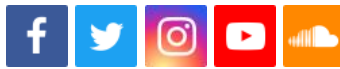
- 1 Help us accept each other
as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother,
each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us
and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted,
and meant to love and live.
- 2 Teach us, O Lord, your lessons,
as in our daily life
we struggle to be human
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them,
or as they may become.
- 3 Let your acceptance change us,
so that we may be moved
in living situations
to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance
until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness,
and laughter's healing art.
- 4 Lord, for today's encounters
with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance,
for justice and for bread,
we need new eyes for seeing,
new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit;
Lord, free us; make us one!

BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

Participants in this worship service:
The Rev. **Kellie Weekley-Mills**, guest pastor
Shaun Cloonan, minister of music
Sunny Sakai, pianist
Elder John Foster, videographer

Music presented with permission under CCLI License #1381818

This service may be found posted on our website at www.fpcedgewood.org,
on our **YouTube channel**, or audio only on our SoundCloud channel at
www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood



*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 | www.fpcedgewood.org

