

# First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day  
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 23, 2020

10:00 a.m.

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

arr. John A. Behnke

Call to Worship

The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah,  
***And he will reign forever and ever.***

Praise the Lord!

***The Lord's Name be praised!***

Hymn 385

“All People that on Earth Do Dwell”

1 All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell. Come ye before him and rejoice.

2 Know that the Lord is God indeed; without our aid he did us make;  
we are his folk; he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.

3 O enter then his gates with praise; approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.

4 For why? The Lord our God is good; his mercy is forever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

***Merciful God, we confess that we have strayed from your purposes.  
You set a path for us to follow, but we conform to the ways of this world.  
You offer us your transforming love,  
but we cling to familiar patterns and habits.  
You give each of us gifts to use for the work of your kingdom,  
but we wait for others to do what needs doing.  
Forgive us for taking the easy way out  
and failing to serve you with eager hearts.***

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Acts 13:32-35

And we bring you the good news that what God promised to our ancestors he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising Jesus; as also it is written in the second psalm, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you.' As to his raising him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, he has spoken in this way, 'I will give you the holy promises made to David.' Therefore he has also said in another psalm, 'You will not let your Holy One experience corruption.'

Second Lesson: Revelation 11:15-18

Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign forever and ever." Then the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped God, singing, "We give you thanks, Lord God Almighty, who are and who were, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign. The nations raged, but your wrath has come, and the time for judging the dead, for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints and all who fear your name, both small and great, and for destroying those who destroy the earth."

Psalter: Psalm 2

Why do the nations conspire, and the peoples plot in vain?  
The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together,  
against the Lord and his anointed, saying,  
"Let us burst their bonds asunder, and cast their cords from us."  
He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord has them in derision.  
Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying,  
"I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill."  
I will tell of the decree of the Lord: He said to me,  
"You are my son; today I have begotten you.  
Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,  
and the ends of the earth your possession.  
You shall break them with a rod of iron, and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."  
Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.  
Serve the Lord with fear, with trembling kiss his feet, or he will be angry,  
and you will perish in the way; for his wrath is quickly kindled.  
Happy are all who take refuge in him.

Sermon: "Do You Hear the Laughter?"

Dr. Eelman

## **RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

Hymn 758

"Why Do Nations Rage Together"

1 Why do nations rage together; why in vain do they conspire?  
Rulers of earth's vast dominions light the skies with martyrs' fire.  
Truth mistaken, God forsaken, banes of righteousness arise;  
yet shall they reap sore displeasure, sure defeat before God's eyes.

2 To the children of the promise God shall give the throne this day.  
With a scepter forged of iron, they shall dash their foes as clay:  
faith revealing, humbly kneeling, quench the fire and sheathe the sword,  
for God's wrath is quickly kindled; blest are they who serve the Lord.

Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed

***I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand  
of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.***

Offering

Offertory

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

arr. Henry Balcombe

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

### **GO IN GOD'S NAME**

Hymn 275

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.  
Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.  
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

2 Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,  
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he.  
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

3 And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.  
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him.  
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure. One little word shall fell him.

4 That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.  
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still. His kingdom is forever.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

arr. Edward Broughton

**PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Brent Eelman
Liturgist	Charles Pinches
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck

**First Presbyterian Church  
300 School Street  
Clarks Summit, PA 18411  
570/586-6306  
www.fpccs.org**

Words from the public domain hymns are from *Glory to God*. Used by permission.  
Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE A-721445. All rights reserved.  
The WORSHIPcast Streaming and Retransmitting License provided by Christian Copyright Solutions.

**Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving**

First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit offers electronic Giving as a way to support the church on a regular or one-time basis. You can go to **fpccs.org** or **scan the QR code** (at right) anytime to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history. Why not give it a try today?

