

Sunday, July 21, 2024 10:00 A.M.

Prelude

Great is Thy Faithfulness

William Runyan

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Leader: Neighbors and newcomers, families and strangers,

People: we gather in this place built by God's steadfast love.

Leader: Strugglers and stragglers, pilgrims almost at the end of the journey,

People: each of us seeks to follow Jesus, the compassionate One.

Leader: Builders of bridges in fractured communities, those who stand on

either side of walls of fear,

People: the Spirit of faithfulness calls us to live as one people – God's people!

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you!

People: ...and also with you.

*Hymn 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

Opening Prayer

Call to Confession

*Indicates that the congregation will please rise, in body or in spirit.

Merciful God, we celebrate the way that you chose to bring unity and peace to people — through the gift of your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. He broke down long standing walls of prejudice and hostility that identified people as fundamentally different from one another and unable to get along. He abolished rules that restricted life and replaced them with the new commandment to love as he did. Forgive us, God, for our efforts to build up those barriers once more, for lording it over others, and considering ourselves better than those we have been called to love. We pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to bind us together in love and peace, building us up as a witnessing, welcoming and forgiving community of grace in Jesus' name, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Ephesians 2:13, 10

Moira Laidlaw

Leader: "In Jesus you who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ." "In him we have been reconciled to God through the cross, made citizens with the saints and members of the household of God." Hear then, the good news that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

*Hvmn 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)

Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Lesson from the Hebrew Bible: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a

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Anthem

Christ Has Broken Down the Wall Cameron Mustizer, vocalist

Mark Miller

Lesson from the New Testament: Ephesians 2:11-22

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Sermon "Jesus Christ, Olympian!"

The Reverend Linda Gaden

*Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God, who created our world and every living thing in it. Because all people in all places are God's children, we believe they have the right to be treated with dignity. We believe in Jesus Christ, who died on the cross to save us from our sins. We understand and believe that the power of his redeeming grace is available to all who seek it. As recipients of that grace, we also believe we are called to live out and share the good news of the gospel. We believe in the power of the Holy Spirit to make all things new through God's grace and love. As we are forgiven, so must we forgive others. We believe in the Triune God, who continues to create, wash us clean in the baptismal water and inspire and empower us to serve in the name of Jesus Christ.

*Hymn 373

O Day of Peace.

JERUSALEM

The Prayers of the People

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 Offering

Offertory

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need arr. Stephen DeCesare Cameron Mustizer, *vocalist*

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn 317

In Christ There Is No East or West

MC KEE

*Benediction

Postlude

To God Be the Glory

Mark Hayes

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Today's worship leaders are Guest Preacher Rev. Linda Gaden and Parish Associate Rev. Caroline S. Unzaga.

Special thanks and welcome to our guest pianist Lisa Wichman and our vocalist Cameron Mustizer.

Our ushers this morning are Patti Montefusco and Linda Barnes.

Thank you to our tabulators and processor Bob Eager and Carrie Butler.

Special thanks to Lisa and Craig Duke for their technical assistance today.

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH: July 22 - 27, 2024

Monday

7:00 pm Session Meeting (Hybrid), Theos & Zoom

Tuesday

10:00 am Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room

<u>Wednesday</u>

7:00 pm Milestone's Group (Shunk Home)

Friday

2:00 pm Church Office Closes

NEXT SUNDAY, July 28, 2024

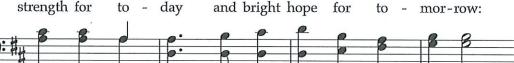
10:00 am Worship, Halldorson Hall

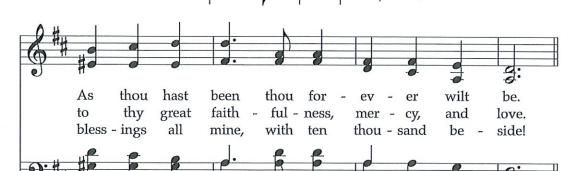
11:00 am Lemonade & Fellowship, Mulford Hall

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP 240 Southern Blvd., Chatham, NJ 07928 • 973-635-2340 • www.pcct-nj.org

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Great Is Thy Faithfulness 1 *Great is thy faith - ful-ness, O God my Fa - ther; Sum - mer ter, and spring-time and win and har - vest, Par - don for sin peace that and dur - eth, en there is of turn - ing shad thee. no their sun, moon, and stars in cours - es bove a thine pres own dear ence to cheer and to guide, Thou chang - est thy com - pas - sions they not; fail not. join with all ture in man - i fold na wit-ness strength for and bright hope for day to mor-row:





*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.



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earth shall know the Lord. peace shall be ful-filled, for all the

our war-ring world shall see Christ's prom-ised reign of peace.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text on peace was created to offer non-nationalistic words for a popular British tune. The first stanza depicts pax, a mode of peace focused on ending conflict, and the second (based on Isaiah 11:6-9) describes shalom, the condition of living in harmony and mutual good will.

grace

317 In Christ There Is No East or West



This setting expands and enhances the thematic inclusiveness of an early 20th-century text by adapting the melody of a traditional spiritual to carry these words. This 1940 pairing marked the first use of African American musical material in a mainline North American hymnal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS July 21, 2024

We are delighted you've chosen to worship with us today. Please let an usher or minister know if we can assist you in any way.

TODAY AT CHURCH

10:00 am Worship, Halldorson Hall

11:00 am Lemonade & Fellowship, Mulford Hall 7:00 pm Compassionate Friends, Music Room



CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel Flowers are presented to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Willibald Bliemel, Father and Grandfather of the Bliemel Family.

WELCOME REV. LINDA GADEN!

This morning, we joyfully welcome Rev. Linda Gaden to our pulpit as part of a presbytery pulpit exchange program. Rev. Gaden is a second career minister, and has served as Pastor of Bethlehem Presbyterian Church in Pittstown, NJ since September 2020. Pastor Tom will be preaching at the Bethlehem Church that same morning. We look forward to hearing her message today.

COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE

Last week, we delivered nearly 18 pounds of produce today to assist our friends and neighbors at the Helping Hands food distribution. Tomatoes, squash, herbs, beans, peas, and nearly 6 pounds of swiss chard. The garden is going strong! Check out our progress in pictures on the bulletin board in the Lounge. Volunteers are always needed to help with weeding, watering and harvesting one week at a time throughout the summer. Please sign-up on our website. Thanks for everyone's contributions and support.

2024 BACK-TO-SCHOOL BACKPACK DRIVE

Once again, PCCT is partnering with Project Readiness NJ to provide backpacks to children in need. We've been given a list of 15 high school children who will need a backpack full of school supplies for the upcoming year. From now through August 4, you can drop off items at the church office or in the designated box in the Upper Lobby. On August 11th, we'll assemble the backpacks during a special summer Faith Forward event following worship at 11:00 am. The PCCT office will be bulk buying some of the items, so if you'd like to make a monetary donation instead of shopping, that

would be most welcome (check payable to PCCT with "Backpacks" in the memo line). To donate items, you can sign up on our website or through the link in the weekly eblast. Be sure click the "View Full Description" link as it contains a link to Amazon for the purchase of backpacks and calculators - two of our most needed items.



MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Calling all Members! — As we continue to develop new ways to secure funds to maintain our physical plant, the Finance and Operations Committee would like to hear from any of our members who have experience working with charitable organizations that make donations to organizations such as PCCT. We have received grants in the past from organizations such as The Hyde and Watson Foundation and would like to identify similar organizations with whom you have interacted. Please contact John McCann at 973-202-0740 or mccannjohn0@gmail.com to discuss!

FLOWER DEDICATIONS

We have some Sundays available this summer (July 28, Aug. 25, & Sept. 1) and throughout the end of the year. If you would like to place a dedication, you may go to our website to sign up or you can call the church office at (973) 635-2340 or email Gloria. You may also sign up on the flower chart in the upper lobby.