



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

Sunday, September 29, 2024
10:00 A.M.

Prelude

Just As I Am

arr. Greg Howlett

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We come so that we can worship our God,

People: whose words restore us to life.

Leader: We come so that we can follow Jesus,

People: whose hopes for justice are crystal clear.

Leader: We come so that we can learn from the Spirit,

People: whose teachings help us to understand how to live as God's people.

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you!

People: ...and also with you.

***Processional Hymn 12** Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Call to Confession

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

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Thom Schumann

You offer us words which can restore lives, our and others, Teaching God, but we twist them into insults and accusations. You would welcome us into the family of those who serve humbly, but we like to hang out with the cheeky and spiteful. You bless us with all manner of gifts, but we continue to envy what others have. Keep us on our toes, Loving God, lest we continue to trip over our own foolishness. In your mercy, may we not offer a fist, but a helping hand to another; may we walk with the lonely, rather than push them away; may we look for the forgotten, rather than right past them; may we continue to listen to your Word of life, Jesus Christ, so we might trust in your grace and hope.

Assurance of Pardon

***Hymn 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.*

Message for All God's Children

Yvonne Anderson
Director of Family Ministries

Prayer for Illumination

Lesson from the Psalms: Psalm 124

Page 572

Anthem

Lead Me, Lord
Chancel Choir

Samuel Wesley

Lesson from the Gospels: Mark 9:38-50

Page 45

Sermon "Taking Sides"

The Reverend Thomas A. Brown

***Hymn 804**

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

MARION

***Affirmation of Faith** (in unison)

Adapted from *The Confession of 1967*

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's

judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

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

Prayer of Mother Theresa
Caitlyn Huetz, *vocalist*

Craig Courtney

***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**

***Recessional Hymn 432** How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

REPTON

***Benediction**

Postlude

Two Dances

arr. Thomas Keesecker

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Today's worship leaders are Pastor Thomas A. Brown and Elder Evan Skinner.

Thank you to our ushers this morning.

Our tabulators are Carolyn Smith and Rob Meyers
and our processor is Ann Jadro.

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

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH: September 30 – October 5, 2024

Monday

9:30 am Next Act, Theos
7:00 pm Boy Scouts, Mulford Hall

Tuesday

10:00 am Staff Meeting, Halldorson Hall

Wednesday

9:30 am Bible Study, Theos Room

Thursday

6:45 pm Sanctuary Ringers, Bell Room
7:45 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room

NEXT SUNDAY, October 6, 2024

World Communion Sunday

The Sacrament of Communion

10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary; Nursery, Room A-9
10:15 am Church School & Breakfast Club
11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship, Mulford Hall
11:15 am Faith Forward: General Assembly Speaker,
Halldorson Hall

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

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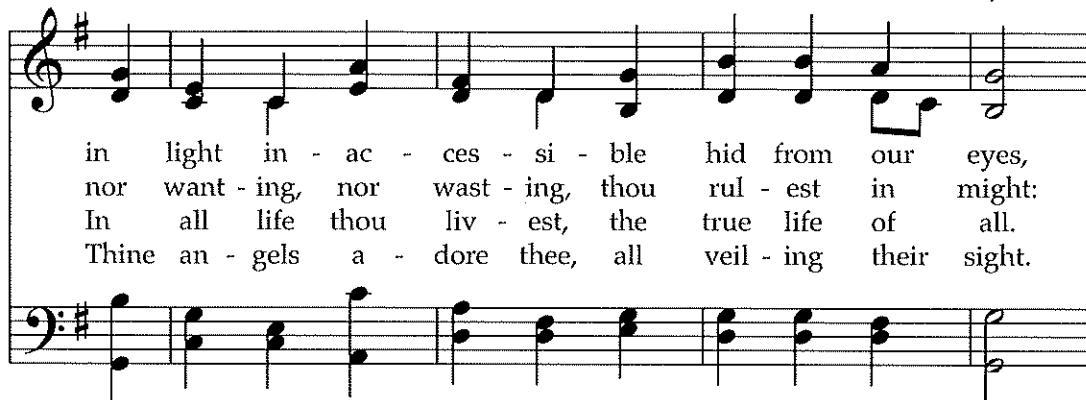
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Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12



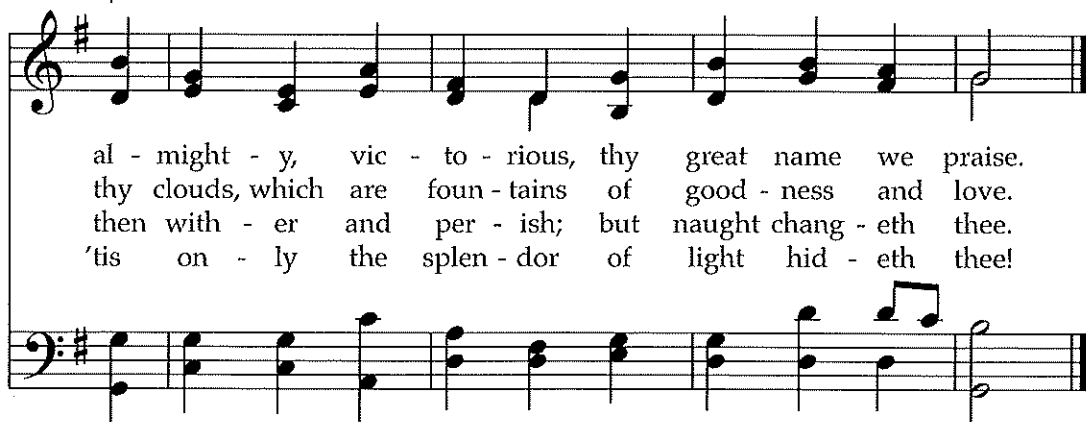
1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.



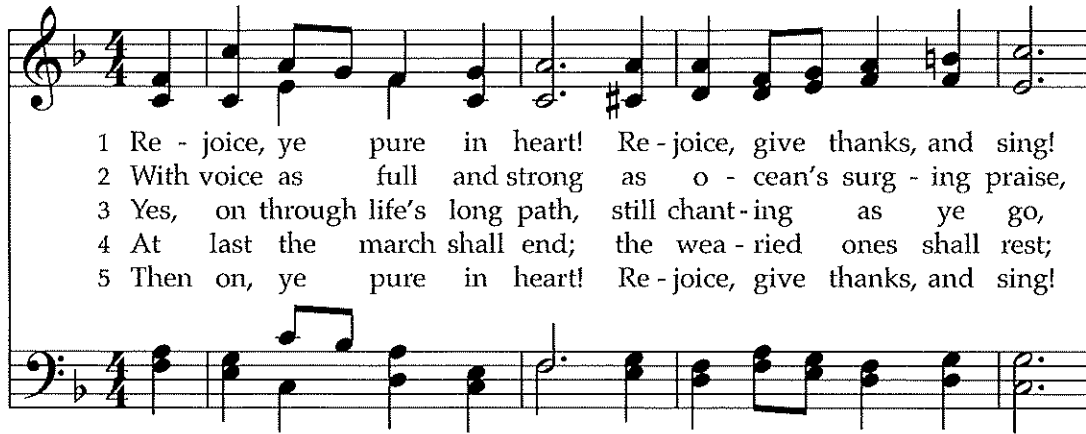
most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see



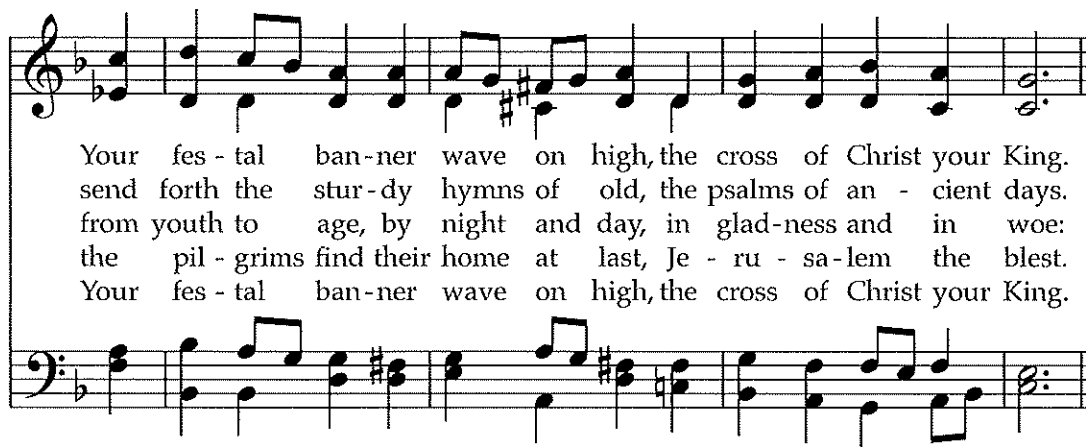
al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

804 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!



1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
 2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
 3 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go,
 4 At last the march shall end; the wea - ried ones shall rest;
 5 Then on, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!



Your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
 send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
 from youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe:
 the pil - grims find their home at last, Je - ru - sa - lem the blest.
 Your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
 Re - joice! Re - joice!

These stanzas are drawn from a much longer hymn created for the processional at an English choir festival in 1865. The original text lacked the refrain that gives the hymn so much of its energy and interest. That feature was added by the composer of this tune in 1883.

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord 432

Capo 1: (D) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A)(D)
 Eb Bb Cm Ab Eb Bb Eb



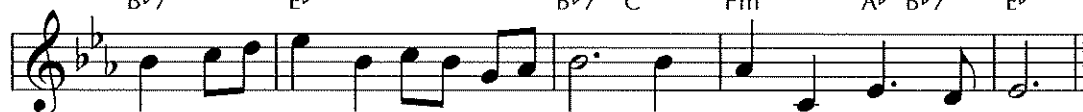
1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
 2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
 3 We mar - vel how your saints be - came in hin - dranc - es more sure:
 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,

(G) (Em) (A) (F#m) (Bm) (G) (Em)
 Ab Fm Bb Gm Cm Ab Fm



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re -
 if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un -
 whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your
 in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to

(A7) (D) (A7)(B) (Em) (G)(A7) (D)
 Bb7 Eb Bb7 C Fm Ab Bb7 Eb



stored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
 wind its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.
 name, and by our faults ob - scure your power to cleanse and cure.
 you: the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored, done.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This reflection on Christian vocation was written to provide a new text for a pre-existing tune, and the poet has crafted his words so well that the two parts mesh smoothly. The tune is named for a noted British boarding school, whose music director was a friend of the composer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 29, 2024

We are delighted you've chosen to worship with us today. Please let an usher or the minister know if we can assist you in any way. Our Sanctuary is equipped with an induction loop system for those with hearing difficulties.

TODAY AT CHURCH

Food Collection for CUMC Pantry

Family Promise Hosting Week Begins

- 9:15 am & 11:00 am Confirmation Class, Youth Suite
10:00 am **Worship**, Sanctuary; Nursery, Room A-9
10:15 am Church School & Breakfast Club
11:00 am **Faith Forward: Food Sorting, Mulford Hall**
Coffee & Fellowship, Mulford Hall



CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel Flowers are presented to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Andrew Patten, husband, father and grandfather,
by the Patten Family.

FAITH FORWARD: Food Sorting for CUMC

Today, after worship in Mulford Hall

Please stay after worship this morning to help sort food that has been collected throughout the month of September for the Food Pantry housed at the Chatham United Methodist Church. Thank you to all those who have generously donated food items this month. If you've brought food with you this morning, please deliver it to Mulford Hall to be sorted after worship.

INSTALLATION OF REV. THOMAS A. BROWN AS PASTOR OF PCCT

Join us on Sunday, October 20 at 4:00 pm for the Installation of Rev. Thomas A. Brown as Pastor of PCCT. This service of worship and celebration is led by a commission of elders and pastors from the presbytery and is open to the community and congregation. The service will feature our chancel choir and some special guests. A reception will follow the service.



COUNT ME IN!

PCCT needs your help! Please consider signing up to be on call for volunteer projects, or connect with a specific opportunity, either one-time or an ongoing capacity. A few hours from just a few people makes a tangible difference in our ability to welcome visitors, address the needs of members and friends, and support the many ministries in which we are engaged. As seasons change in your own life, with a recent retirement or an empty nest, the conclusion of other volunteer commitments, or simply from a renewed interest, please consider making a renewed investment of your time and energy in this beloved congregation. With a broad range of volunteer spots needing to be filled, we can find something to do for just about anyone. Scan the QR Code to find the Count Me In! Interest Form online – it takes just a couple of minutes to complete.



PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY: Wednesday Mornings at 9:30 am, Theos Room

Members and friends are invited to join us for a conversational study of the Bible that will include historical and religious context as well as insights and connections to modern day issues. This fall, we'll be reading through the Gospel of Mark, believed to be the first written account of Jesus' life and ministry. We have a friendly and encouraging group led by Pastor Tom that welcomes new participants at any time. Join us Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am for about an hour and 15 minutes in the Theos Room downstairs. All are welcome!

CALLING ALL BAKERS!

Do you like to Bake? If so, we would like you to join a group of us to supply the baked goods for Memorial receptions and possibly other receptions at PCCT. All that is required is to be willing to bake 2-3 dozens cookies, brownies, muffins, or bread when asked (we usually have at least a week's notice) and bring to the church the day before or the morning of the reception or bake in advance and leave in the PCCT freezer labeled Memorial Receptions. If you are interested in helping, please reach out to Katie Nolle at knolle@verizon.net or let the Church Office know.

MARKET STREET MISSION COAT COLLECTION: September 6 – October 23

PCCT will be collecting gently used coats and homemade or new hats/gloves/scarves to be distributed to those in need in our community and surrounding area. The big collection box will be in the upper lobby.

SPECIAL OFFERING

The Peace and Global Witness Offering will be collected next week on **World Communion Sunday, October 6**, and the money goes to supporting peace-building activities and to providing relief, shelter, and hope to families.

FAITH FORWARD: General Assembly Speaker Craig Barth Sunday, October 6, at 11:15 am in Halldorson Hall

Please join us when Craig Barth will present highlights and personal reflections about his service at the Presbyterian Church USA's General Assembly this summer. Craig has been a member of the Presbyterian Church in Morristown for 43 years. He has served the PCUSA locally, regionally and nationally, participating at all four levels of church governance. In his congregation he has served two terms on Session, chairing the Music & Worship Committee and serving on three other committees. On the Presbytery level, Craig currently serves on the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. On the Synod level, he serves on the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission. On the national level, he has completed two tours as a Ruling Elder Commissioner at the church's General Assembly. We look forward to hearing about his experiences and his service this summer.

A NEW DAY: Monday, October 7, 11:30 am in Halldorson Hall

A New Day group would like to invite all PCCT widows, and senior aged single women to join our monthly meetings for Lunch, Conversation and Friendship. Meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 11:30 am in Halldorson Hall. Our next meeting is Monday, October 7, 2024. For further information please contact Ann Meyers at jmandah@aol or 973-377-0855.

CHILDREN'S MUSIC BEGINNING!

Children's Music met for the first time on Wednesday September 25! Our new Director of Children's Music, Caitlyn Huetz, is excited to begin and welcomes all who are interested to join. They'll meet in the Bell Room for music games, activities, singing and more from 5:00 - 5:45 pm on Wednesday evenings. If your child is participating in Chat & Chew as well, Caitlyn will escort your child upstairs and bring them to Ms. Yvonne. Caitlyn will be sending out more information shortly with dates and details and please don't hesitate to reach out via email at chuetz@pcct-nj.org to learn more.

CHILDREN'S CLUB CHAT & CHEW

Please join our mid-week Church school program for student fellowship and dinner. We will be meeting again on Wednesday, October 9 from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm for lessons, crafts, activities and dinner. Please contact our Director of Family Ministries Yvonne Anderson for more information.

PUMPKIN PATCH DELIVERY AND SET-UP: Sunday, October 13

The pumpkins are coming! Sunday morning after worship we need help unloading the truck and setting up the tent. The Pumpkin Patch is a major mission fundraiser with 100% of the proceeds going to local hunger relief efforts. Additional details and timing will be shared in e-blasts and other announcements – stay tuned!



WOMEN'S EVENING FELLOWSHIP "MILESTONES"

Wednesday, October 16, 7:00 pm

Please join other PCCT midlife moms for our next "Milestones, embracing grace in the middle place" evening of fellowship. We'll gather at 7 pm on Wednesday, October 16 at Katie Young's home. Please join us for a relaxing evening of conversation. RSVP to Stacy McCann at swmccann@optonline.net

THOMAS KEESECKER CONCERT: October 27, 3:00 pm, in the Sanctuary

Thomas Keesecker will share music from his bestselling piano collections in a 75-minute concert. Keesecker, a composer and church musician as well as performer, is known around the country for his sensitive, delightful, and meditative piano arrangements of hymns. At this concert, we'll be able to sing some of them together, as well as listen to his interpretations. The hymns will be interspersed with poetry by Mary Oliver and Wendell Berry, two of the most beloved and profound poets of the 20th and 21st centuries. CDs of his music will be available for purchase after the concert. Tom retired in 2019 after serving as a church musician for over 40 years in Lutheran and Roman Catholic parishes in Virginia, Montana, and Maryland. His sacred music is published by MorningStar, Augsburg Fortress, Choristers Guild, Concordia, and GIA. He studied at the Berklee College of Music in Boston and the Catholic University School of Music in Washington, D.C. He mixes classical technique, jazz improvisation, Celtic and folk music influences in his arrangements. His music may be listened to on Amazon Music and YouTube.