

Sunday, August 21st, 2022



**Zion National Park
Photo by Sean Starke**

*The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury
352 Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702*

August 21st, 2022

*Our PCAS Vision: "To be a Light by Living, Loving, Learning,
and Sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ."*

Order of Worship (*Please rise in body and/or spirit)

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Praeludium

by Johann Ludwig Krebs

*Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 29)

Leader: In holy splendor, we worship the Lord.

People: In God is glory and strength. The Lord is mighty. God is with us.

Leader: In torrents and storms, God's peace pervades.

People: In rumbling thunder, God's mighty voice soothes. The Lord is majestic. God is with us.

Leader: The whisper of the Lord snaps silence.

People: The unwavering sound persists. The Lord is awesome. God is with us.

Leader: As flames being fanned, the presence grows.

People: In its shadow the wilderness pleads. The Lord is powerful. God is with us.

Leader: Enthroned, God rules the universe.

People: The peaceful scepter prevails. God reigns. God is with us.

Leader: In whirling winds, nature acknowledges glory.

People: The people in the temple rejoice. It is certain. God is with us.

*Hymn #403

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty waits for him who answers prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace!

Gracious God, I come before thee, come thou also unto me;
where we find thee and adore thee, there a heaven on earth must be.
To my heart, O enter thou, let it be thy temple now!

Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done indeed;
may I undisturbed draw near thee, while thou dost thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows, here is balm for all our woes.

Call to Confession

Leader: We all seek greater depth of connection in our relationships. We know that our best relationships are those in which we can share the good, the bad, and the ugly, and receive love and support in return. That is how we now approach God. Please join me in prayer:

Prayer of Confession (unison)

People: Gracious God, you lead us to hope in a community of redeemed people. You give us a beautiful vision for life together. We confess that despite needing and wanting to be part of this way of life, other influences creep in. We are torn between doing our best with the way things are and pursuing the fullness of the good news of Jesus Christ. Renew in us, Lord, a passion for the new life you welcome us into. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: It doesn't matter, beloved of God, what you gave up on yesterday, what your soul was too weary to tackle, what cynicism displaced hope. Today is a new day and Jesus is speaking your name, inviting you again into his love and into his way of living in the world. Receive this gift of grace and find yourself among God's people who share in that blessing, and be at peace.

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Psalm 132:13-16

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God!**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

*Passing of the Peace

*Hymn #13 The Mighty God with Power Speaks

The Mighty God with power speaks, and all the world obeys;
from dawn until the setting sun, God's wonder earth displays.
The perfect beauty all around from Zion's height shines forth;
and stars across the firmament so brightly beam their worth.

God comes not with a silent form, but riding on the winds;
before God's face, the raging storm its blast of thunder sends.
All hail the Judge, in bold array, whose promise is to bless;
who sees our sins, yet also feels our thirst for righteousness.

The heavens declare your justice, Lord, as endless as the sky;
against the taunts of disbelief, our God will testify.
Receive my heartfelt gift of thanks, as honor to your might;
refresh my faith with each new day; protect me through the night.

Second Scripture Lesson Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God!**

Sermon National Parks Road Trip:

Zion – Finding the Place where God Dwells

Offering

Offertory Toccata in E Minor

by Johann Pachelbel

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #299 You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name all-victorious of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

Ascended on high, almighty to save;
he still remains nigh; his presence we have;
the great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

"Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!"
let all cry aloud, and honor the Son;
the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore and give him his right:
all glory and power, all wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing with angels above
and thanks never ceasing for infinite love!

*Benediction

Postlude Prelude and Fugue in G Minor

by Nicolaus Bruhns

We welcome Fiona Smith Sutherland to the organ bench today, while Marcello is on vacation in Brazil. She serves as the full-time Director of Traditional Music at Tower Hill Presbyterian Church in Red Bank, running a large program of choral and handbell ensembles, and an exciting concert series. Before returning to her home state of New Jersey, she worked at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Wilton, CT, Trinity Episcopal Church in Newtown, CT, the Church of St. James the Less in Scarsdale, NY, and Christ Church Greenwich, CT. Ms. Sutherland is the Musical Director of the Shrewsbury Chorale. She earned her Bachelor's and Master of Music degrees at Westminster Choir College in Princeton.

Worship Leaders

Liturgist: Kirsten Schanck
Organist: Fiona Sutherland
Ushers: Diane Suarez
Jim Wright
Zoom Host: John Palframan
Rich Vodhanel
Coffee Hour: Gretchen O’Kane
Linda Zucaro
Flowers Deacons

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Katja Gruening
Director of Music Ministries: Marcello Velame
Sexton: Douglas Silk
Office Administrator: Diane Suarez

Meeting Schedule Week of August 21st

21	AUG, SUN	●	10 – 11am	Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
		●	11am – 12pm	Coffee Hour (Social Room)
		●	1:30 – 2:30pm	Worship Committee (Social Room)
		●	3:30 – 4:30pm	AA (TR)
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25	AUG, THU	●	6 – 7pm	Yoga Small Group (FH)
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27	AUG, SAT	●	7:30 – 9pm	AA (TR and FH)
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28	AUG, SUN	●	10 – 11am	Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
		●	11am – 12pm	Coffee Hour (Social Room)
		●	3 – 5pm	Deacon Meeting (offsite)
		●	3:30 – 4:30pm	AA (TR)