

February 13, 2022

Order of Worship

*(*Please rise in body and/or spirit)*

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Invention No. 14

J.S. Bach

Candle Lighting

*Call to Worship

Leader: We gather to find our voices of faith, to break the silence of private devotion and experience the joys of sharing God's Spirit.

People: We gather to converse with God – silently, loudly, on behalf of our own need and on behalf of our neighbor's need.

Leader: In worship, God's stories of sin and redemption give expression to our own.

People: In worship, God's words of grace and love become ours, so that we might become what we believe.

Leader: Let all voices witness to the Glory of God.

*Hymn #753

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there is doubt, true faith in you

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is despair in life let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy.

O, Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Call to Confession

Leader: Let us speak our need for forgiveness to our God who is
standing by to hear and forgive.

Prayer of Confession (**unison**)

Holy One, you create a climate of respect and dignity within which we can drop our defenses and allow your mercy and grace to work on our sinful ways. We pray as we do in these moments, unguarded, because you see in each of us a worthy person. What, O Lord, can we learn, can we change, to be more adept at creating this climate around us as well? We often do not handle one another's failures with care and forgiveness. We approach one another unable to listen because we already think we know them. If only we could learn to speak and listen to others in this gracious manner. Thank you for receiving our confession in love.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

God has received our confession in love. God has seen that we hold Christ's hopes and dreams for us in our hearts, and such faith is enough. Be assured, dear family of God, of the full outpouring of God's saving grace.

We rejoice that we do live in your perpetual grace. Glory be to you, O God.

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Psalm 119:33-40

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

Second Scripture Lesson Luke 6:27-38

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

Sermon

"The Golden Ruler"

Offering

Offertory

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

John Dempsey

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #754

Help Us Accept Each Other

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.

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.

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.

Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and 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

My Tribute

Crouch/Brock

Worship Leaders:

Liturgist:

Elder Linda Zucaro

Ushers:

Team A

Zoom Host:

Jim Wright

Hymn Leadership:

Bing Prestridge and George Kustka

Saxophone:

Rich Vodhanel

Piano and Organ:

Kathleen Healy-Wedsworth and Marcello Velame

Video Editing:

Rich Vodhanel

Pastor:

Rev. Katja Gruening

Announcements and Upcoming Events:

**Celebrate the return to Coffee Hour every Sunday
Hosted this week by: Worship**

Children's Book Drive!

The Church and Society Committee is participating in a book drive for The Bridge of Books Foundation. Please drop your new or gently used children's books in the collection box in Fellowship Hall until February 28, 2022.

Please be a part of our efforts to bring the world and all its possibilities to New Jersey's at-risk children through books. Should you have any questions, please contact Lori Hirce. To learn more about The Bridge of Books Foundation, Thank you for giving the gift of literacy!

Food Drive: The Deacons invite you to drop off shelf stable food for the Eatontown CO-OP. You are welcome to leave donations in the bin or the foyer of the Church House.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY Tuesday 9am

You can jump in on our discussion anytime at this zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87686705631>

Or by phone: (646) 558-8656 Enter Meeting ID: 876 8670 5631

Katja is excited to make the study accessible to the whole church via blog (simple website). You're invited to check it out. PastorKatja.blogspot.com

Chancel Flowers: Please sign up to dedicate and supply flowers in memory of your loved ones. There is a sign up sheet in the foyer of The Church House, or you can email pcas@verizon.com or call the office 7327473557 your information.

THE BOOK NOOK...so many new books the shelves are filled to the brim!!!

“Reflections On What We Believe”

“Allow the love of God to ground you in your Belovedness, and allow that love to inform how you receive guidance from the people of color in your life. We don't bring up race to be divisive, we bring up race to grow in intimacy. That's what living in covenant with each other is all about: authentically correcting and courageously connecting.”

Osheta Moore, *Dear White Peacemakers*