

August 13, 2023

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 God's Time Is the Best Time J. S. Bach

*Call to Worship

Leader: We gather to worship our God,
who speaks the words of peace we need in chaotic times.

**People: We gather to follow Jesus,
who encourages to never fear, for he is near.**

Leader: We gather to be filled with the Spirit,
who anoints us so we can go to serve our world.

People: We gather to see God's vision for all people.

***Hymn #375** Shall We Gather at the River *music page 4*

Call to Confession

Leader: Let us pray together, holding the example of Christ before us,
and considering how we have embraced that example, but honestly
struggled with it more.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Almighty God,
We make choices about who we keep in our lives, and which of our
catch we throw back into the sea. Individually, we can only be in
relationship with a limited number of others, but as a community, we
are capable of so much more. And we do not live up to our capability.
We confess that we are, often unintentionally, closed off to others. We
embrace welcome as a concept, but find it difficult to put into practice.
We reach out to others who will understand us, but rarely reach out
offering to understand them. We seek commonality more so than
diversity.

But nothing has to be a pattern. Gracious God, forgive us and help us recognize when we reinforce behaviors that exclude. Help us grow in your gift of love, and in the interpersonal skills needed to be your people in a diverse world. Amen.

Moment for Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God holds nothing against us when we show a spirit willing and desiring to be more like Christ. God reaches out to all with the invitation to enter into a new life of grace-filled living. In Christ's name I extend you that invitation. It's yours for the receiving. Whether you need to ponder receiving God's gift of forgiveness, or whether you have the faith right now to accept it, God has given the gift. It is yours. Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Illumination

First Scripture Lesson: Ezekiel 47:1-12

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God!**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the Church and The Lord's Prayer

Passing the Peace

***Hymn #623** Peace Like a River

music page 5

Second Scripture Lesson Matthew 13:47-52

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

Sermon "Gone Fishin': The Dragnet"

Offering

Offertory Shall We Gather at the River

arr Joel Raney

***Doxology**

Prayer of Dedication

***Hymn #372** O For a World

music page 6

Benediction

Postlude Fanfare in G

Francis Jackson

*The flowers today are dedicated to our parents
and our 34th wedding anniversary by Sean and Sue Starke.*

Worship Leaders

Pastor:	Rev. Katja Gruening
Director of Music Ministries:	Marcello Velame
Liturgist:	Ken Gibbons
Music Ministry:	Kathleen Healy-Wedsworth
Ushers:	Brian Sergeant
	Rich Vodhanel
Zoom Hosts:	John Palframan
	Jim Wright
Social Hour:	Men's Group

375 Shall We Gather at the River

1 Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, where bright an-gel feet have trod,
 2 On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver spray,
 3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-ery bur-den down;
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er; soon our pil-grim-age will cease;

with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing by the throne of God?
 we will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the hap-py gold-en day.
 grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.
 soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er with the mel-o-dy of peace.

Refrain

Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er;

gath-er with the saints at the riv-er that flows by the throne of God.

623 I've Got Peace like a River

1 I've got peace like a riv - er; I've got peace like a
 2 I've got joy like a foun-tain; I've got joy like a
 3 I've got love like an o - cean; I've got love like an

1
 riv - er; I've got peace like a riv - er, in my
 foun-tain; I've got joy like a foun-tain, in my
 o - cean; I've got love like an o - cean, in my

2
 soul. I've got riv - er, in my soul.
 soul. I've got foun-tain, in my soul.
 soul. I've got o - cean, in my soul.

O for a World

372



1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,
2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,
3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.
5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,



where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.



Meeting Schedule Week of August 14th

15	AUG, TUE	● 9:30 – 10:30am	Wisdom Tree Yoga - Chair Yoga Fitness(FH)
		● 11am – 12pm	Overeaters Anonymous (TR)
		● 5 – 7pm	Mental Health Association of Monmouth County (FH)
		● 7:30 – 9pm	Session Meeting (TR)
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16	AUG, WED	● 9:15 – 10:15am	Yoga Small Group - (FH)
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19	AUG, SAT	● 12 – 2pm	Campi Service (Sanctuary)
		● 7:30 – 9pm	AA (TR and FH)
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20	AUG, SUN	● 10 – 11am	Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
		● 11am – 12pm	Coffee Hour (SR)
		● 3:30 – 4:30pm	AA (TR)
		● 5 – 6pm	AA (TR)

Women's Fall Retreat



Women's Fall Retreat – A Fruitful Life: Abiding in God's Grace Across the Seasons

A Fruitful Life: Abiding in God's Grace Across the Seasons No...

PW has received a generous gift and the PW Board decided to use part of the money to invite all women members to enjoy the Women's Fall Retreat at newly renovated Johnsonburg on **October 27-29**. **A Fruitful Life: Abiding in God's Grace through the Seasons** is the theme for the weekend which *begins with dinner on Friday and ends with lunch on Sunday*.

*Registration will open sometime in August. As soon as it opens **each participant** must go online to register and indicate that they are from PCAS so that the payment can be made by PW and so that we can be housed together.*

For now, if you are interested in going, find a roommate and **contact Nancy Vodhanel at nvodhanel@gmail.com or 732-530-7641** to let her know you are planning to go. Johnsonburg needs a list of those who are from PCAS for finances and lodging, so be sure to get your name to Nancy. There is no cost to you since this is being paid for using our generous gift.

You can check out the details of the retreat by clicking on the link at <https://www.campjburg.org/events/womens-fall-retreat/>

For any questions, please contact Nancy Vodhanel (info above).