

October 22nd, 2023

Reflections on Inclusivity

*You always have to remember - no matter what you're told –
that God loves all the flowers,
even the wild ones that grow on the side of the highway.*

Cindy Lauper

Order of Worship

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

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude How Great Thou Art

Setting by Stephen DeCesare

Candle Lighting

***Call to Worship**

Leader: From the corners of worry and fear, from the shadows where we huddle with our doubts,

People: God calls us to this place of sanctuary where we can draw from Love's deep wells.

Leader: In every moment where we look for strength to continue, in every time, we wonder if faith is worth it,

People: Jesus calls us to this time where we can welcome the peace given to us.

Leader: In every person who embraces us with acceptance, in every touch that offers healing and hope,

People: the Spirit calls us to see those around us as God's beloved, our siblings of grace.

***Hymn** #442

Just As I Am, without One Plea

Call to Confession

Leader: Our hope for peace for our world begins with our own ability to confess our sin and open ourselves up to the transformative grace of God. Let us therefore pray together:

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Holy and Beloved God, you are the great peacemaker, who brings together many different parts and makes the one united body of

Christ. Yet, we often turn aside from the peace you offer, and assume that we alone have it right. Instead of listening to your call to comfort one another, we accidentally or purposefully rub salt in the spiritual wounds of our neighbors. Help us to stop making things worse, and instead offer cool, calm comfort to your warm and wonderful people, all in the name of your peacemaking. Amen.

Moment for Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: My friends, this is the good news of Jesus Christ: God offers us grace for our mistakes and errors, and calls us to reconcile with one another. In Christ, we have hope for true and just peace.

People: Just as God forgives us, so we too shall forgive each other. Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Illumination

First Scripture Lesson: Psalm 139:13-18

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** A Hymn for Self-Acceptance

Second Scripture Lesson Romans 14:13-19

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

Sermon "Beyond the Binary"

Offering

Offertory Be Thou My Vision Setting by Brant Adams

***Doxology**

Prayer of Dedication

***Hymn** All the Colors of the Rainbow

Benediction

Postlude He's Got the Whole World in His Hands
Setting by Brant Adams

*The flowers today are given in loving memory of Audrey Semple,
a faithful Deacon, by her husband Barry.*

Worship Leaders

Pastor:	Rev. Katja Gruening
Director of Music Ministries:	Marcello Velame
Music Ministry:	Rich Vodhanel
Liturgist:	Ken Gibbons
Ushers:	Steve Aquilina Diane Suarez
Zoom Hosts:	John Palframan Jim Wright Rich Vodhanel
Social Hour host:	P&A

Please join us for the 4th annual

**TRUNK
OR
TREAT**



WHEN: Sunday November 5, 2023 after Church Service
(Coffee hour will be in the back lot during the event)

WHERE: Parking Lot behind Church House
(Please park trunk or treat cars in lot before service)

KIDS: WEAR YOUR BEST COSTUME

ADULTS: DECORATE YOUR CAR &
BRING YOUR BEST TREATS
OR BRING A CHAIR TO JUST
WATCH THE FUN!

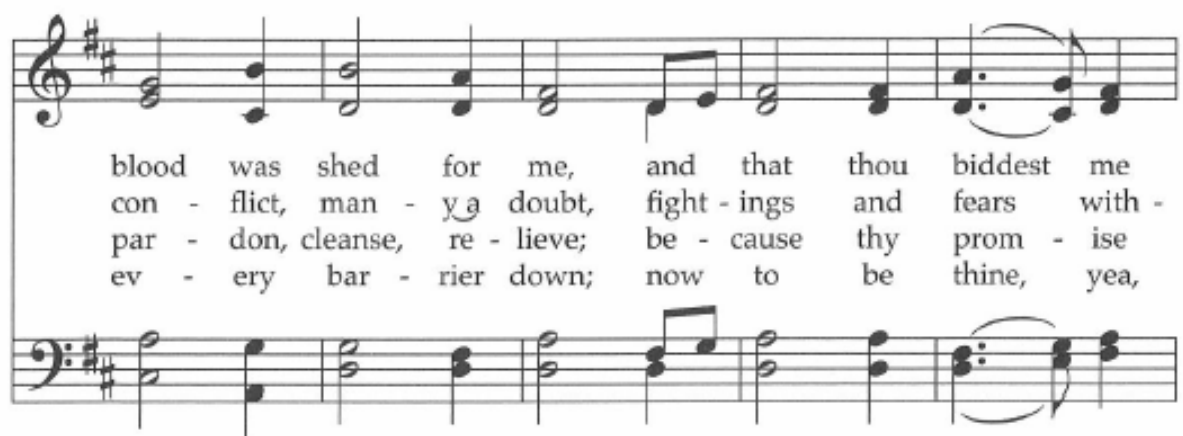


Goodies & Games for All!
**Prize for
Best Decorated Vehicle!**

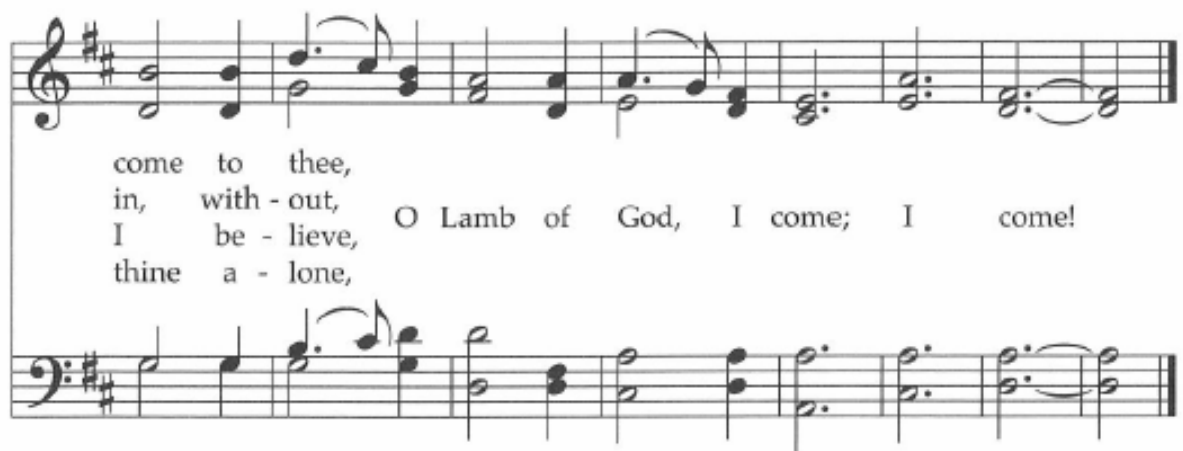
442 Just as I Am, without One Plea



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that thy
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come,
4 Just as I am, thy love un-known has bro - ken



blood was shed for me, and that thou biddest me
con - flict, man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with -
par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise
ev - ery bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea,



come to thee,
in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!
I be - lieve,
thine a - lone,

A Hymn for Self-Acceptance

Wesley King

BEACH SPRING
B.F. White, harm. Ronald A. Nelson

1. When you feel change might be hope - less, when you've giv - en up on God,
2. Years and years, beg - ging for turn - ing in - to some - thing that you're not.
3. You are worth more than you real - ize. You are won - der - ful - ly made

when you feel you're not worth sav - ing, that your be - ing - ness is flawed.
The wrong prayer you have been pray - ing. You are not God's af - ter-thought.
in the im - age of our Mo - ther, Fa - ther, Pa - rent, all the same.

When your prayers still seem un - an - swered, not a sound from the Di - vine,
You are made as God in - tend - ed. You are per - fect - flaw-less too!
Don't let doc - trines of our church - es use the Word to mis - con - strue,

may - be you have been mis - ta - ken. God is send - ing you a sign.
May each one of you re - mem - ber, no - thing sev - ers God from you.
for it's writ - ten in the scrip - tures, sure - ly God de - lights in you!

All the Colors of the Rainbow

Carl P. Daw

ABBOT'S LEIGH
Cyril V. Taylor

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a consistent accompaniment in the bass line. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each with a corresponding musical staff. The first system includes four numbered verses. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system includes a prelude to the final verse. The fourth system concludes the piece with a final cadence.

1. All the co - lours of the rain - bow live un - seen in dai - ly light,
2. All the bo - dy's parts are wan - ted, nor can one de - spise the rest:
3. Ev - ery lang - uage gains more mu - sic when the words for peace ap - pear:
4. Teach us, God, our need of oth - ers; through them help us ful - ly live.

but their splen - dors find ex - pres - sion when re - leased to hu - man sight;
head and hand must work to - get - ther, as must eye and ear and chest;
Pax, Sa - laam, Ei - ri - ni, Hei - wa, Pa - ce, San - ti, Frie - den, Mir.
Wean us from our sel - fish hab - its; let us list - en, learn, for - give.

so the church re - veals most beau - ty where di - ver - si - ty is real:
so the church needs all its mem - bers for a range of min - i - stries:
Though our tongues make sounds that va - ry all be - speak a com - mon home:
May we see your longed - for im - age in each hu - man heart and face,

breadth of race and class and gen - der, room for doubt and space to heal.
var - ied gifts with one great mis - sion, "Do this for the least of these."
long - ing for the end of con - flict and a new life in God's Sha - lom.
and be - hold how those a - round us can be chan - nels of your grace.

Schedule Week of October 23rd

23	OCT, MON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 4:30 – 5:30pm ● 7 – 9pm ● 7 – 9pm 	<p>Wisdom Tree Yoga - Gentle Floor Yoga(FH)</p> <p>Boy Scouts (FH)</p> <p>Session Task Force (TR)</p>
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24	OCT, TUE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9 – 10:30am ● 9:30 – 10:30am ● 11am – 12pm ● 12 – 2pm ● 5 – 7pm 	<p>Zoom Bible Study</p> <p>Wisdom Tree Yoga - Chair Yoga Fitness(FH)</p> <p>Overeaters Anonymous (TR)</p> <p>Church & Society (TR)</p> <p>Mental Health Association of Monmouth County (FH)</p>
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25	OCT, WED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9:30 – 11am ● 8 – 9pm 	<p>Mission Belles (TR)</p> <p>Igreja Presbiteriana Gethsemani Bible Study (TR)</p>
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26	OCT, THU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9:30 – 10:30am ● 4:45 – 5:45pm ● 6 – 7pm ● 7 – 9pm 	<p>Wisdom Tree Yoga (FH)</p> <p>Yoga Small Group - (FH)</p> <p>Bells (SR)</p> <p>Igreja Presbiteriana Gethsemani choir practice (FH)</p>
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27	OCT, FRI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All day 	<p>PW Women's Retreat (offsite) (Day 1/3)</p>
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28	OCT, SAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All day ● 7:30 – 9pm 	<p>PW Women's Retreat (offsite) (Day 2/3)</p> <p>AA (TR and FH)</p>
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29	OCT, SUN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All day ● 8:45 – 9:30am ● 10 – 11am ● 11am – 12pm ● 12 – 1pm ● 3:30 – 4:30pm ● 5 – 6pm ● 6 – 9pm 	<p>PW Women's Retreat (offsite) (Day 3/3)</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)</p> <p>Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)</p> <p>Coffee Hour (FH)</p> <p>Deacon's Meeting (TR)</p> <p>AA (TR)</p> <p>AA (TR)</p> <p>Igreja Presbiteriana Gethsemani Worship (FH)</p>