

Order of Public Worship of God

The Sixteenth Day of July, Two Thousand Twenty-Three

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

“Inside every old person is a young person wondering what happened.”

- Terry Pratchett, quoted in *The Times*

“There was a sort of innocence to him, I thought. I do not mean this as the poets mean it: a virtue to be broken by the story’s end, or else upheld at greatest cost. Nor do I mean that he was foolish or guileless. I mean that he was made only of himself, without the dregs that clog the rest of us.”

- Madeline Miller, *Circe*

“I wish there was a way to know you’re in the good old days before you’ve actually left them.”

- Andy Bernard, NBC’s *“The Office”*



OPENING PRAYER | from St. Augustine

**Great You are, O Lord, and greatly to be praised;
great is Your power, and Your wisdom is infinite.
You would that we praise without ceasing.
You call us to delight in Your praise,
for You have made us for Yourself,
and our hearts find not rest until we rest in You;
To whom with the Father and the Holy Spirit
all glory, praise, and honor be ascribed,
both now and forevermore. Amen.**

† HYMN OF WORSHIP | “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under his wings, yea so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e’re have been
Granted in what he ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with his love he befriend thee.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again:
Gladly, for aye we adore him.**

† CALL TO WORSHIP | from Job 28

“Where shall wisdom be found?

And where is the place of understanding?

Man does not know its worth,

and it is not found in the land of the living.

From where, then, does wisdom come?

And where is the place of understanding?

It is hidden from the eyes of all living.

God understands the way to it,

and he knows its place.

For he looks to the ends of the earth

and sees everything under the heavens.

And he said to man,

‘Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom,

and to turn away from evil is understanding.’”

† HYMNS OF THANKSGIVING | “By Thy Mercy”

**Jesus, Lord of life and glory,
bend from heav’n thy gracious ear;
While our waiting souls adore thee,
friend of helpless sinners, hear:**

Refrain:

By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.

By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.

**From the depth of nature’s blindness,
from the hardening power of sin,
From all malice and unkindness,
from the pride that lurks within: *(refrain)***

**When the world around is smiling,
in the time of wealth and ease,
Earthly joys our hearts beguiling,
in the day of health and peace: *(refrain)***

**In the solemn hour of dying,
in the awful judgment day,
May our souls, on thee relying,
find thee still our Rock and Stay: *(refrain)***

“Abide With Me”

**Abide with me; fast falls the eventide
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers, fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, abide with me.**

**Thou on my head, in early youth didst smile;
And, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, though I oft left Thee,
On to the close Lord, abide with me.**

**I need Thy presence, every passing hour.
What but Thy grace, can foil the tempter’s power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.**

**I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless
Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?
I triumph still, abide with me.**

**Hold Thou Thy cross, | before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heaven’s morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.**

INVOCATION AND 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.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

† CORPORATE PROFESSION OF FAITH | The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended into Hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead

He ascended into heaven

and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there He will come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and life everlasting.

Amen.

† DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† GREETING

Junior Worship begins for children age four through first grade. Please escort children to the following classrooms.

Preschool - Room 10; Kindergarten and First Grade - Room 9. Children will return to sit with their families

before communion.

READING OF GOD’S WORD | Psalm 90

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Series: The Book of Suburbs

Sermon: “Wise Age”

- Rev. Joshua Smith

PRAYER FOR GRACE AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SILENT CONFESSION

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God,
We confess that we have done what was right in our own eyes,
failing in fear of the Lord who alone knows the hearts of humanity.
We come now to Him who freely pardons all who repent and turn to Him:
Fulfill in every contrite heart the promise of redeeming grace;
forgiving all our sins, and cleansing us from an evil conscience;
through the perfect sacrifice of Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON | 1 Corinthians 1:30-31

And because of him you are in Christ Jesus,
who became to us wisdom from God,
righteousness and sanctification and redemption,
So that, as it is written,
“Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND SHARING OF THE CUP

How do we take communion at St. Patrick?

When directed, please come forward to receive the bread and the cup. The white chalices contain wine; the darker ones on the tables have grape juice. The crackers on the tables are gluten-free. The elder will distribute the bread and then follow with the wine chalice. We will practice intinction, where you will dip the bread in the wine. If you prefer grape juice or need gluten-free bread, indicate your preference when the elder comes to you, then go to the table for your elements. After receiving communion, you will proceed to the outside aisle to return to your seats.

Who comes to the Table?

Communion is open to all baptized believers who have made a profession of faith in Jesus. If you have children who have not made a profession of faith, they are not ready to partake of the elements, but please bring them forward to be blessed by one of our elders. If you are not a believer but want to know more about Jesus, you are invited to come forward and simply bypass the table, letting one of the leaders know that you would like to learn more about what it means to know and belong to Jesus.

† HYMN OF ASSURANCE | “On Jordan’s Stormy Banks”

**On Jordan’s stormy banks I stand and cast a wishful eye
To Canaan’s fair and happy land where my possessions lie.**

**All o’er those wide extended plains shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns and scatters night away.**

Refrain:

**I am bound, I am bound
I am bound for promised land.
I am bound, I am bound
I am bound for promised land.**

**No chilling winds nor poisonous breath can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death are felt and feared no more. (refrain)**

**When shall I reach that happy place and be forever blessed?
When shall I see my Father’s face and in his bosom rest? (refrain)**

† BENEDICTION | Romans 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!
“**For who has known the mind of the Lord,
or who has been his counselor?**”

**“Or who has given a gift to him
that he might be repaid?”**

For from him and through him and to him are all things.
To him be glory forever. Amen.

*Scripture tells us to make our needs known to God, and to call others to pray with and for us.
If you would like prayer, elders will be standing in the front of the sanctuary (pulpit side)
immediately following the service to pray with you.*



ST. PATRICK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH EPC



Upcoming Events and Registrations:



Fiscal Fitness

The budget for our fiscal year that began on July 1, 2022 and ended on June 30, 2023 was based on a 3.1% increase in unrestricted giving. Unrestricted giving exceeded budget and finished the fiscal year at a 4.5% increase. Below is the latest financial update as of the month ended June 30, 2023:

	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year-to-date</u>
Actual unrestricted tithes and offerings	\$116,064	\$1,651,570
Budgeted unrestricted tithes and offerings	106,720	1,630,000
Favorable (unfavorable)	\$ 9,344	\$ 21,570

The budget for our fiscal year that began on July 1, 2023 and ends on June 30, 2024 is based on unrestricted giving of \$1.695 million, which represents a 2.6% increase.

As of June 30, 2023, we have approximately \$2.3 million in total debt and approximately \$115 thousand in cash restricted for facilities. This restricted cash balance will be used to cover any unplanned maintenance needs for our facility.

LOVING GOD. LOVING PEOPLE. LOVING LIFE.

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