

The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell 326 Bloomfield Avenue Caldwell, NJ 07006 973-228-0310 www.firstprescaldwell.org

June 20, 2021 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Father's Day

REFLECTION

"Jesus came down to our level. And if the Son of God refused to elevate himself, then why would anyone dare to elevate him or herself above others? Jesus came to earth to be level with you and level with me. So why would any of us still keep our eyes cast down, making ourselves lower than our Savior views us?" ~ Rev. Alyce McKenzie

PRELUDE

Two Arrangements of "This Is My Father's World"

arr. Franklin L. Sheppard & Gilbert M. Martin

JENNINGS-HOUSTON

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Worship is a punctuation mark in time, between a week that's ended and a week that's beginning.

Worship is a question mark that lets us express our wonder and ask God to increase our faithfulness.

Worship is a period that allows us to pause with our Lord Jesus, allowing us to pray, learn, and reflect on our lives.

Worship is an exclamation point, encouraging us to be glad and enthusiastic in the Spirit.

Welcome to worship. It is good to be together with God and one another.

HYMN No. 5

"God the Sculptor of the Mountains"
God the sculptor of the mountains,
God the miller of the sand,
God the jeweler of the heavens,
God the potter of the land:
You are womb of all creation;
We are formless; shape us now.

God the nuisance of the Pharaoh,
God the cleaver of the sea,
God the pillar in the darkness,
God the beacon of the free:
You are fount of all deliverance;
We are aimless; lead us now.
God the dresser of the vineyard,

God the planter of the wheat, God the reaper of the harvest, God the source of all we eat: You are host at every table; We are searching; meet us now.

God the unexpected infant,
God the calm, determined youth,
God the tableturning prophet,
God the resurrected truth:
You are present every moment;
We are searching; meet us now.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

We would want to be fountains of hope for others, God of glory, but people find only hardened hearts. We would like to be transformed people, but our stubborn pride prevents us from bending a knee to you. We long to stand with those who are in need, but our selfishness keeps our backs rigid with judgment. Forgive us, God who came down to us. Humble us, that we might be true servants. Split open our frozen hearts, that compassion might flow freely to those who are hurting. Fill our minds with the presence of your Spirit, that we might learn how to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, into that kingdom of grace and hope. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

This is the good news: in Christ, God's plan for salvation was accomplished. You are forgiven, you are made new.

We will complete God's joy, by sharing compassion, forgiveness, hope, with everyone we meet. Thanks be to God. Amen.

HYMN No. 71 "Surely, It Is God Who Saves Me" FIRST SONG

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,

And God will be my Savior.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC "Like As a Father" Luigi Cherubini (1760 – 1842)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Philippians 2:5-11

SERMON "An Instinct for the Center" Rev. William Schram

SPECIAL MUSIC "Fathers and Sons" Stephen Schwartz

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.

HYMN No. 264

"At the Name of Jesus"

KING'S WESTON

At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, Every tongue confess him King of glory now; 'tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord, Who from the beginning was the mighty Word.

Humbled for a season to receive a name
From the lips of sinners unto whom he came,
Faithfully he bore it spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious, when from death he passed;

Bore it up triumphant, with its human light, Through all ranks of creatures, to the central height, To the throne of Godhead, to the Father's breast, Filled it with the glory of that perfect rest.

Christians, this Lord Jesus shall return again, With his Father's glory o'er the earth to reign; For all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow, And our hearts confess him King of glory now.

BENEDICTION

Please greet your fellow worshippers with a wave as you exit the sanctuary.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram
Rev. Barbara Piercy
Noel A. Piercy
Susan Jones
Malcolm Haddad & Micki Hardenberg, Cantor & Soloist
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers