



The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell
326 Bloomfield Avenue
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August 2, 2020
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Sunday

Reflection

“Be not angry that you cannot make others as you wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself as you wish to be.” - Thomas a’ Kempis

PRELUDE

This is the Feast: Music for Communion

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

Blessed is God, who created us and loves us beyond measure.

Blessed is God, who calls us to stop measuring out our love.

Blessed is God, who speaks and tells us stories about ourselves.

Blessed is God, who reveals to us who we are and who we could be.

Blessed is God, whose compassion is poured out on every single person.

Blessed is God, who gives us compassion to share with every single person.

Almighty God, Holy One, look upon us with your mercy and grant us a vision of your glory so that, with humble and penitent hearts, we may receive the good gifts that you are more ready to give than we are to receive or even desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SUMMER HYMN SING

“It Is Well with My Soul” (Hymn No. 840, St. 1 & 4)

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll, whatever my lot,
Thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul);
It is well; it is well with my soul.

Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trumpet shall sound
And the Lord shall descend; even so it is well with my soul.
It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul);
It is well; it is well with my soul.

“I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry” (Hymn No. 488, St. 1, 3 & 4)

“I was there to hear your borne cry; I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.”

“In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young.
I’ll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I’ve begun.
When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,
I’ll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.”

“I was there to hear your bawling cry; I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*In Unison*)

Compassionate God, we find the process of letting go a strain upon our hearts. It often demands of us more than we offer. We decline to let go of things that poison us — vengeful thoughts, self-righteousness, unconfessed guilts, unconflicted prejudices. We hesitate to let go of things that hinder personal growth — lingering hurts, hard feelings, unreconciled grievances, unresolved griefs. We refuse to let go of things that tempt us — enticements away from our values, neglects of our faith commitments, rejections of your will, suppressions of our boldest hopes. Free us toward being able to let go of all that is more harmful than holy. In Jesus’s name. AMEN.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear the Good News! All who are moved by the Spirit of God are children of God. We are heirs of God’s splendor with Jesus Christ. Friends, believe the Good News! **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

HYMN NO. 581

“Glory Be to the Father”

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Mission Update

Joyce McGrath

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Walk that Valley”
Michael Hardenberg, Solo

TRADITIONAL SPIRITUAL
arr. Gwyneth Walker

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 31:43 - 55

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 9:26 - 31

SERMON

“Imperfect Peace”

Rev. William Schram

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Beach Spring”
Cailan Compierchio, Handbells

arr. Christine D. Anderson

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

HYMN NO. 552

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

LAND OF REST

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

CONSECRATION & 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.

SHARING

HYMN NO. 555

“Lamb of God”

LAND OF REST

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us,
Lamb of God, and grant us your peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord, thank you for feeding us with the bread of heaven, and blessing us by your presence and peace. Encourage us now to go into the world carrying the peace of Christ. Help us be bread for the world. In Christ's name. Amen.

HYMN NO. 543, St. 5

“God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”

GREEN TYLER

Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that hear my voice,
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“You Are Mine”

arr. Marilyn Biery

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram

Rev. Barbara Piercy

Susan Jones

Michael Hardenberg, Soloist & Cantor

Cailan Compierchio, Handbell Soloist & Cantor

Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers