



July 4, 2021
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Independence Day

REFLECTION

Paul's brand of perseverance might be called a "perseverance of the soul." "For Paul, perseverance is a way to get closer to Christ. It means not looking back but looking ahead toward Christ with single-minded purpose." ~Rev. Alyce McKenzie

PRELUDE

"Tribute to America"

arr. Mark Hayes

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are created in the image of God. We are commanded to love God and one another.

We are required to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

We are called to follow Jesus.

In this time of worship, may we remember.

Christ's call upon us, and the Spirit's movement in us. Amen.

HYMN No. 611

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

HYMN TO JOY

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
 God of glory, Lord of love!
 Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
 Opening to the sun above.
 Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
 Drive the dark of doubt away.
 Giver of immortal gladness,
 Fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee;
 Earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
 Stars and angels sing around thee,
 Center of unbroken praise.
 Field and forest, vale and mountain,
 Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
 Changing bird and flowing fountain,
 Call us to rejoice in thee.

Mortals join the happy chorus
 Which the morning stars began.
 Love divine is reigning o'er us,
 Joining all in heaven's plan.
 Ever singing, march we onward,
 Victors in the midst of strife.
 Joyful music leads us sunward
 In the triumph song of life.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(In Unison)*

Creator God, we have distorted Your image in us. We have disrupted Christ's intention for us. We have ignored and even benefitted from the marginalized instead of caring for these as You have called us to do. We have failed to persevere in the task of following Jesus. We have not fully followed Your call on our lives. Forgive us. Call us into the difficult work of reparation and restoration. Guide us into the ways of healing justice and mercy. Spirit of Christ, breathe in us Your truth, and may we understand Your intentions for us. May we live into Your intention of love and life for all. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Our Creator God knows that we are more than what can be perceived. We are made in the image of God, and you are beloved. We are created with the intention to love and care for others and the world. We can still live into God's intention.

We seek forgiveness, and we know we are forgiven through Jesus. We seek to repair what is broken and know that Jesus is at work repairing our hearts and souls. We seek to love one another, and know that we are Christ's brothers and sisters, and with us, God is well pleased.

HYMN No. 581

“Glory Be to the Father”
Glory be to the Father, and the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
Is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Philippians 3:1-21

SPECIAL MUSIC

“America”

arr. Betty Garee

SERMON

“The Journey of Hope”

Rev. William Schram

HYMN No. 2129 (Hymnal Supplement - “Sing the Faith”)

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

ASSAM

I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me;
The world behind me, the cross before me;
The world behind me, the cross before me;
No turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, still I will follow;
Though none go with me, still I will follow;
Though none go with me, still I will follow;
No turning back, no turning back.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

HYMN NO. 595

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

ARGENTINE SANTO

Holy, holy, holy.
My heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you:
you are holy, Lord!

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.

HYMN NO. 604

“Lamb of God”

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
Grant us peace; grant us peace.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, here, in the bread and the cup, anointed by your Holy Spirit, You come, calling us to taste life and to drink of grace. May the brokenness of the bread make us whole. May the richness of the cup’s hope fill us with your gifts to share: hope for those who despair, comfort for all who grieve, justice for the oppressed. Amen.

HYMN No. 338

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

MATERNA

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with servanthood from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw;
Confirm thy soul in self control, thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness and every gain divine!

BENEDICTION



WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram
Jessica Goodson & Susan Jones
Chancel Handbell Choir
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers

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