



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

August 15, 2021
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

REFLECTION

So, the first task ... is to see Pharaoh clearly and the second task ... is to ponder these strategies for emancipation that are offered by Moses and then by Jesus. And the third work involves intentionality and discipline, the kind that every addict must practice in order to break addictive habits.

~ Walter Brueggemann

PRELUDE

“En Bateau” (In a Boat)

Transcribed by L. Lafleurance
Claude Debussy (1862 – 1918)

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are created in the image of God. ^[SEP]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 God’s intention for us,

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

SUMMER HYMN SING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(In Unison)*

If we were to name all the gods we have before you, Rock of Redemption, we would be here a very long time. We elevate leaders into saviors, though they are as broken as we are. We misuse your name so much during the day, we have trouble speaking to you in prayer at night. We are so busy, we do not notice how creation witnesses to your goodness and grace.

Forgive us, God our Hope. Help us to let go of what we value most, so we may open our emptiness, our hearts, our lives to the healing and loving presence of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Persistently, patiently, lovingly, Christ pours out grace and joy into our lives, healing our brokenness, forgiving our sin.

Loved, we are sent to love; forgiven, we are freed to forgive;

Graced, we can offer our gifts of grace to everyone we meet.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

HYMN No. 769, St. 5

“For Everyone Born”

FOR EVERYONE BORN

For everyone born, a place at the table,
To live without fear, and simply to be,
To work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
For everyone born, the right to be free.
And God will delight when we are creators of justice
And joy, compassion and peace:
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice.
Justice and joy.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *Exodus 20:1-17*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON *1 Corinthians 1:18-25*

SERMON *"You Asked for It: The Relevance of the 10 Commandments Today"*

Rev. William Schram

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Higher Ground"*

arr. Brent Olstad

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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. 543

"God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me"

GREEN TYLER

God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Bind to myself the Name of Holy,
Great cloud of witnesses enfold;
Prophets, apostles, angels witness:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight,
Flashing of lightning, strength of wind,
Depth of the sea to soil of planet:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Walking behind to hem my journey,
Going ahead to light my way,
And from beneath, above, and all ways:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

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

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram

Rev. Barbara Piercy

Susan Jones

Jessica Goodson, Flute

Micki Hardenberg, Cantor

Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers