



The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell  
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**August 29, 2021**  
**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**REFLECTION**

*“The principle cannot be denied: the fiercer the struggle against the injustice you suffer, the blinder you will be to the injustice you inflict.” ~ Miroslav Volf*

**PRELUDE**

*“We Thank Thee, Lord” (Sinfonia from Cantata BWV 29) J. S. Bach (1685 – 1750)*  
Transcribed and Arranged by J. Michael Case

**WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

We come, those who seek to trust in God.

**We commit ourselves to do as Jesus would do for those around us.**

We come, delighting in all the wonders God provides for us.

**We would not worry but open ourselves to God’s heart.**

We come, waiting patiently for God to speak.

**We will be still, listening for God’s words of hope, of peace.**

**SUMMER HYMN SING**

*(Two congregational hymn requests)*

***“Go Tell It on the Mountain” (Hymn No. 136, St. 1 & 3; Online Request)***

Go, tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching  
O’er silent flocks by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light.

Go, tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lowly manger  
The humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn.

Go, tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born!

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(In Unison)*

Loving God, we confess freely that all is not well with us. We seek your encouragement and renewal, your forgiveness and grace. We seek this knowing all too well that we too often respond to wrongs done us with vengeance rather than forgiveness. We pray for the wounds of our world and the ways we respond to them. Forgive us for injuries caused by cutting words and deeds, by the cruelty of neglect or uncaring. Forgive us for feelings hurt by unnecessary abrasiveness and rough handling. Forgive us for seeking to return hurt for hurt, or even for returning more pain than we received. Forgive us for bruising others because of our stung pride. Instead help us be those who learn to forgive as Jesus bids us and to be wellsprings of grace. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

This saying is true, and we should believe it: that Christ Jesus came into the world to rescue sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin and alive to all that is good.

**We believe and trust the Good News. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**

**HYMN No. 582**

*"Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me"*

GLORY TO GOD

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

World without end, without end. Amen

World without end, without end. Amen

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**MINUTE FOR MISSION** *Board of Deacons Annual Youth Ministry Golf Outing*

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** *Genesis 34:14-18, 25-31*

**GOSPEL LESSON** *Luke 6:27-36*

**SERMON** *"Vengeance and Forgiveness"*

Rev. William Schram

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *"He Watching Over Israel" from ELIJAH*

Felix Mendelssohn (1809 – 1847)

**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. 547**

*"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"*

AR HYD Y NOS

"Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river  
I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."

“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story;  
Here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”

Go, my children, fed and nourished, Closer to me;  
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you;  
Here his tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.

## **BENEDICTION**

### **WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Rev. William Schram  
Rev. Barbara Piercy  
Susan Jones  
Micki Hardenberg, Cantor  
Chancel Choir  
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers