



The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell  
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**OCTOBER 24, 2021**

**Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**

**REFLECTION**

*"Confront the dark parts of yourself, and work to banish them with illumination and forgiveness. Your willingness to wrestle with your demons will cause your angels to sing." ~ August Wilson*

**PRELUDE**

*"Reverie"* Claude Debussy (1862-1918), arr. Kurt Meyer

**WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

We come to you this day, with burdens and cares in our hearts.

**Lord, take these burdens from us and ease our souls.**

We come to you this day, seeking to celebrate your goodness.

**May we open our hearts in gratitude and praise.**

Come, let us worship God whose love is abundant.

**Let us praise the God of our salvation who watches over us always.**

**\*\*HYMN NO. 633, St. 1 - 3**

*"Praise Ye the Lord"*

CLEVELAND

Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!

Everybody praise the Lord.

Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!

Everybody praise the Lord.

Praise God with the sound of the trumpet,

Praise God with the lute and the harp;

Praise God with the timbrel and dancing;

Praise God wherever you are.

Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!

Everybody praise the Lord.

Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!

Everybody praise the Lord.

**Praise God with holy cymbals,**

**Praise God with strings and with pipes,**

**Praise God with clashing cymbals,**

**Praise God with all of your might.**

Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!

Everybody praise the Lord.

Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!

Everybody praise the Lord.

Praise God in the holy temple,

Praise God for almighty deeds;

Praise God for those bountiful mercies,

For God fulfills our needs.

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

**Caring God, we humbly acknowledge to you both our desire to be understood and our desire to keep some truths about ourselves under wraps, even to ourselves. We confess to hiding from knowledge about ourselves; to setting aside the honest criticism of others; to**

evading confrontation with unseemly aspects of our thoughts and deeds. We confess to restricting our knowledge of others; to ignoring the best within them; to allowing stereotypes and habit to shape our relationships. We confess to limiting our knowledge of you, to avoiding serious reflection about your call to faithfulness; to regarding spiritual growth as more optional than as essential. Forgive us and help us understand your will. Lord God, you understand us completely and we now silently pray your help in understanding and shaping ourselves. Amen.

#### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Let go of the demons that bind you in sorrow. Christ has broken those bands and reaches out in love for you. Receive God's loving blessings. Believe the good news of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

**\*\*HYMN NO. 633, St. 4**

*"Praise Ye the Lord"*

CLEVELAND

Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!  
Everybody praise the Lord.  
Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!  
Everybody praise the Lord.  
Praise God on top of the mountains.  
Praise God both day and night.  
Praise God down in the low valleys.  
Praise God because it's all right.

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

*Psalm 51:10-16*

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*"The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm"*

Albert Hay Malotte

**GOSPEL LESSON**

*Mark 5:1-13*

**SERMON**

*"Ralph and the Demons"*

Rev. William Schram

**HYMN NO. 688, St. 1-2 & 4-5** *"Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart"*

MORECAMBE

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;  
Wean it from earth; through all its pulses move;  
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,  
And make me love thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,  
No sudden rending of the veil of clay,  
No angel visitant, no opening skies;  
But take the dimness of my soul away.

Teach me to feel that thou art always night.  
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,  
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh.  
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love thee as things angels love,  
One holy passion filling all my frame;  
The baptism of the heaven descended Dove,  
My heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

#### 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. 634**

*"To God Be the Glory"*

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God be the glory; great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the lifegate that all may go in.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
And give him the glory: great things he has done!

Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer and higher and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
And give him the glory: great things he has done!

**\*\*BENEDICTION**

**\*\*Those who are able may stand.**

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Rev. William Schram  
Rev. Barbara Piercy  
Susan Jones, Noel Piercy  
Paul Salierno, Cantor & Soloist  
Joelle Piercy, Handbell Soloist  
Members of the Chancel Choir  
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers