



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

October 31, 2021
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

REFLECTION

“It is harder to learn from life than you think. Life is a series of fragmented activities. We need to pay attention in order to learn from life. There is more going on than you know. Divine reality has been active in you. Being faithful is learning to respond to what is given — the gift of life — while it is being given.” ~ John Shea

PRELUDE

Three Preludes on American Hymntunes

Charles Callahan

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

God is with us, right here and now.

We open our lives to our creator.

God cares for us and gives us glory.

We open our hearts to our creator.

God appoints us keepers of the earth.

We dedicate ourselves to our creator.

****HYMN No. 405**

“Praise God for This Holy Ground”

HEYMONYSTRAAT

Praise God for this holy ground,
Place and people, sight and sound.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
God’s goodness is eternal.

Praise God in whose word we find
Food for body, soul, and mind.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
God’s goodness is eternal.

Praise God who through Christ make known
All are loved and called God’s own.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
God’s goodness is eternal.

Praise God’s Spirit who befriends,
Raises, humbles, breaks, and mends.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
God’s goodness is eternal.

Though praise ends, praise is begun
where God’s will is gladly done.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
God’s goodness is eternal.

OPENING PRAYER *(In Unison)*

God of infinite mercy, when we neglect the humbleness of knowing our place in this world, forgive us; when we trade your peace and calls for unity for conflict and violence, forgive us; when we forsake our good character, to join those who scoff at your ways, forgive us; when we ignore your truth, and turn away from your

wisdom, forgive us. Forgive us and heal us, Lord, that we may abide in your grace and your love forever. Amen.

****HYMN No. 757, St. 3** *“Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples”* KINGSFOLD
May we in service to our God act out the living word,
And walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord
To God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Children in kindergarten – 7th grade may exit the sanctuary for Sunday School.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *Psalm 8*

SPECIAL MUSIC *“Find Us Faithful”* John Mohr

GOSPEL LESSON *Mark 5:14 - 20*

SERMON *“At Home with a Good Mystery”* Rev. William Schram

SPECIAL MUSIC *“Let the Whole Creation Cry”* arr. Paul Manz

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. 14** *“For the Beauty of the Earth”* DIX
For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies;
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye,
For the heart and mind’s delight,
For the mystic harmony
Linking sense to sound and sight:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

****BENEDICTION**

****BENEDICTION RESPONSE – HYMN No. 765**

Please join the Sunday School children in singing the Benediction Response.

“May the God of Hope Go with Us”
May the God of hope go with us every day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace;
Singing, share our joy with all;
Working for a world that’s new,
Faithful when we hear Christ’s call.

ARGENTINA

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

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram
Rev. Barbara Piercy
Susan Jones, Noel Piercy
Alan Smulen, Cantor
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers