



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

May 15, 2022

Fifth Sunday of Easter

REFLECTION

When we love one another, the church becomes an exemplar of life out of death, a model of how the old can be renewed. We become a present-day sign of the future new heaven and earth, when God "will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."
~ Daniel Clendenin

PRELUDE

Majesty

arr. Joel Raney

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (from John 13:34-35)

Christ has given us a new commandment,

We are called to love one another.

By this, everyone will know we are followers of Jesus;

We are called to love one another.

This is who we are, this is how we are known:

We are called to love one another.

Come, join your hearts in this time of worship:

Love God, following Jesus, and loving one another.

****HYMN No. 757**

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

KINGSFOLD

Today we are all called to be
Disciples of the Lord,
To help to set the captives free,
Make plow-share out of sword,
To feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
Make love and peace our fast,
To serve the poor and homeless first,
Our ease and comfort last.

God made the world and at its birth
Ordained our human race
To live as stewards of the earth,
Responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud,
We sow not peace but strife,
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud
That threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down
As in a mighty stream,
With righteousness in field and town
To cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore

An earth where conflicts cease,
A world that was created for
A harmony of peace.

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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(In Unison)*

God Who Is Love, we confess that we have misused this precious word. We've used it insincerely. We've used it as a weapon to abuse others. We've shared it, and then broken the foundation of trust that love is built upon. Forgive us, Loving One, and call us into repentance. Help us to remember that we have entered into a covenant with You, and You have commanded us to love one another. May our love grow to be genuine, to be merciful and forgiving. May our love call us to seek justice for our neighbors. May the love You have given us help us to grow into the people You have called us to be. In the name of Christ, who is Love, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Just as Christ has loved us, so we are called to love one another. The love from Christ can never be taken away. We are God's beloved.

May God's love refresh, renew, and restore us. May God's love call us into repentance. May God's love call us into the work of justice for all. And may God's love fill us with the peace that surpasses all understanding. Amen.

****HYMN No. 581**

Glory Be to the Father
Glory be to the Father,
And to 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

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

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Church Life

Bonnie Chiappetta, Diane Joy

SPECIAL MUSIC

We Would See Jesus

arr. Craig Courtney

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

GOSPEL LESSON

John 13:31-35

SERMON

Commanded to Love

Rev. William Schram

****HYMN No. 711**

Lord of All Good
Lord of all good, our gifts we bring to you;
Use them your holy purpose to fulfill,
Tokens of love and pledges brought anew,
That our whole life is offered to your will.

We give our minds to understand your ways;
Hands, eyes, and voice to serve your great design;

TOULON

Heart with the flame of your own love ablaze,
Till for your glory all our powers combine.
Father, whose bounty all creation shows;
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live;
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows:
To you with grateful hearts ourselves we give.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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. 378

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom

MERLE'S TUNE

We wait the peaceful kingdom, when wolf and lamb shall lie
In gentleness and friendship without a fear or sign,
When lion shall be grazing, when snake shall never strike;
A little child shall lead us both strong and weak alike.

Where is the peaceful kingdom? When will this new day start?
We long for peace and comfort to reign within each heart.
Yet not in our lives only, nor simply in our home:
We pray that all creation will one day find shalom.

When wars of desolation and the come to an end,
When nation meets with nation and calls the other "friend,"
Still peace in all its fullness will only have begun:
Shalom for all creation begins with justice done.

That little child shall lead us to walk the chosen way,
To share the peaceful kingdom, to greet God's newborn day.
The child born in a stable is sent to break our chains,
To bring through word and table the day when justice reigns.

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

The Irish Blessing

John Horman

POSTLUDE

Hymn to Joy

arr. Charles Callahan

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

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram

Rev. Barbara Piercy

Noel A. Piercy

Susan Jones

Chancel Handbell Choir

Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers