

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

of Wausau, Wisconsin

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 19, 2022

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Toccata Regale

Anthony Giamanco

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Our souls long for you, O God;

Where are you?

In raging wind?

In trembling?

In blazing flames?

Our souls long for you, O God; where are you?

...silence...

Meet us once more, O God, in stillness, in silence, in smallness.

Come now, O God, enter our hearts and minds, present now for you.

*OPENING PRAYER

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so our souls long for you, O God. Draw us into your presence as we worship this day. Quench our parched souls, which thirst for you. In music, in silence, in fellowship, may our souls be renewed for your service. **Amen.**

*HYMN

God of Great and God of Small

19

1 God of great and God of small,
God of one and God of all,
God of weak and God of strong,
God to whom all things belong,
alleluia, alleluia,
praise be to your name.

2 God of land and sky and sea,

God of life and destiny,
God of never-ending power,
yet beside me every hour,
alleluia, alleluia,
praise be to your name.

3 God of silence, God of sound,
God by whom the lost are found,
God of day and darkest night,
God whose love turns wrong to right,
alleluia, alleluia,
praise be to your name.

4 God of heaven and God of earth,
God of death and God of birth,
God of now and days before,
God who reigns forevermore,
alleluia, alleluia,
praise be to your name.

CALL TO CONFESSION

In confession, we tell the truth about ourselves and our broken world, and the God of all Truth, who knows our limitations and love our imperfections, has already forgiven us and will always forgive us. Trusting in God's infinite mercy, let us dare to tell the truth in prayer together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Grace, we have harmed your children whom you love. Because we do not understand them, we segregate them, we reject them, we demonize them, and we hurt them. Forgive us, in your infinite love, and teach us to welcome all of your children until our hospitality is as wide as your mercy. Help us to understand others as we wish to be understood. Guide us to love one another as you love us. Amen.

Please continue in silent reflection and your personal prayer of confession

SUNG RESPONSE

Spirit of the Living God

288

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is the truth: you are not the labels others place on you. You are more than the boxes you check. You are not the side of the aisle on which you stand, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

You belong to Christ, and Christ alone. Believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven

SUNG RESPONSE

Now Thank We All Our God

643, v. 3

**All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

As you spoke to the Legions, O God, speak now to the forces that surround us.

By your Spirit, let your word illumine the darkness, and your light break through our delusions, that we may see your truth. **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 42

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

When shall I come and behold the face of God?

My tears have been my food day and night,

while people say to me continually, 'Where is your God?'

These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:

how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God,

with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you

from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts;

all your waves and your billows have gone over me.

By day the LORD commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

I say to God, my rock, 'Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?'
As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me continually, 'Where is your God?'

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

SOLO

You're Always There

Denis Burgess

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Kings 19:1-15a

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.' Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: 'It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, 'Get up and eat.' He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, 'Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you.' He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food for forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after

the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.' Then the LORD said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.

MESSAGE

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

HYMN

How Long, O God, Will My Prayers Be in Vain

779

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from the Iona Community

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our Judge and our Hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

. . .Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name; your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

For the sake of those who have yet to hear the word of God, for those who are in need of our bounty, and for the discipline that comes with sacrifice, let us bring our tithes and offerings.

OFFERTORY

The offering plates are available at the doors to leave your offering before or after the service or you may give online at www.firstpreswausau.org or through your Realm login.

***SUNG RESPONSE**

We Praise You, O God

612, v 3

**With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Thanks be to you, Creator of the universe, for earth and sky, water and rock,
creatures and plants, that we may have life enough to live and to offer for others.
Thanks be to you, Crucified and Risen Lord, who shows us the face of God so that we may see in our siblings a member of Christ's
own body and rejoice.
Thanks be to you, Holy Spirit, Giver of Life, who groans within us as we pray and teaches us compassion that we might love our
neighbors as ourselves.
Accept our offerings as signs of your never-failing care, in the name of all that is most precious in your sight. **Amen.**

SENDING OUT

***HYMN**

Near to the Heart of God

824

1 There is a place of quiet rest,
near to the heart of God,
a place where sin cannot molest,
near to the heart of God.

Refrain:

O Jesus, blest Redeemer,
sent from the heart of God,
hold us, who wait before thee,
near to the heart of God.

2 There is a place of comfort sweet,
near to the heart of God,
a place where we our Savior meet,
near to the heart of God. (Refrain)

3 There is a place of full release,
near to the heart of God,

a place where all is joy and peace,
near to the heart of God. (Refrain)

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Near to the Heart of God

** Please stand in body or spirit where indicated.
Text in **bold type** is to be quietly spoken or sung in unison*

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