



The Presbyterian Church on the Hill

Summer Worship Service at St. George

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

July 30, 2023

5PM

— GATHER —

Prelude

“Seek Ye First”

Karen Lafferty

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Julie

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 105)

Laura Evernham

Give thanks to the Lord; call on his name;

make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him;

tell of all his wonderful works.

Glory in his holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

** Please stand, if you are able. Words in **bold text** are read or sung in unison.*

Verse 1

**We worship the God who was.
We worship the God who is.
We worship the God who evermore will be.
He opened the prison doors.
He parted the raging sea.
My God He holds the victory.**

Chorus

**There’s joy in the house of the Lord.
There’s joy in the house of the Lord today.
And we won’t be quiet. We shout out Your praise.
There’s joy in the house of the Lord.
Our God is surely in this place
And we won’t be quiet. We shout out Your praise.**

Verse 2

**We sing to the God who heals.
We sing to the God who saves.
We sing to the God who always makes a way.
'Cause He hung up on that cross
Then He rose up from that grave.
My God’s still rolling stones away.**

Chorus

Bridge

**('Cause) We were the beggars. Now we’re royalty.
We were the prisoners. Now we’re running free.
We are forgiven, accepted, redeemed by His grace.
Let the house of the Lord sing praise.**

Repeat Bridge

Repeat Chorus

CALL TO CONFESSION

The kingdom of heaven is for all of us,
but we come to this space full of our own burdens.
Let us confess our sins before our Triune God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsive)

**Holy God, we try to keep you close to us,
but in the process, we push our neighbors away.
We have been distracted in a distracting world
and withheld love from each other and from you.
Have mercy on us, O God.
In your compassion, cleanse and release us from our sin.
Create in us a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us . . .**

Continue in silent prayer . . . Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died and who was raised,
who is at the right hand of God, who intercedes for us.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ is with you.

And also with you.

Let us share signs of peace with one another!

— GROW —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (UNISON)

**Eternal God, you have made us in your image.
Let our hearts, minds and spirits be turned to you
so that the Holy Spirit may bring us closer to the Word. Amen.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Children are invited to come to the chancel steps for a chat with Pastor Julie. Afterward they are invited to return to their seats.

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like **a mustard seed** that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like **yeast** that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like **treasure** hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like **a merchant** in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like **a net** that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

— GIVE THANKS —

* SONG

“Seek Ye First”

Lafferty

**Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, Alleluia**

**Ask and it shall be given unto you. Seek and ye shall find.
Knock and it shall be opened unto you. Allelu, Alleluia**

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

- Online - www.pcoh.church/give
- With the Vanco Mobile App from your mobile device's app store
- By mail - make checks payable to PCOH



OFFERTORY

“In Christ Alone”

Getty/Townend

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied.
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and 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.**

— GO —

* CLOSING SONG

“Be Thou My Vision”

SLANE

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall.
Still be my vision O ruler of all.**

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Slane”

arr. Mark Hayes

Serving Today

Ushers: Michael and Robin Compoly

Liturgist: Laura Evernham

Vocal Soloist: Christine DeNicola

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Julie D. Thompson-Barrier, PASTOR

Dr. Jeff Unger, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC and ORGANIST

Meghan Pringle, DIRECTOR OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Beth Ruzanic, COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT

Tom Connors, SEXTON

Troy Rubio, AUDIO-VISUAL TECHNICIAN

SESSION

Rev. Julie Thompson-Barrier: Moderator

Marilyn Dicken: Mission

Wally French: Outreach

Linda Klose: Assistant Treasurer, Resources (Administration)

Del Kunert: Resources (Personnel)

Jamie Montero: Outreach

Lisa Phillips: Treasurer, Resources (Finance)

Chris Schwartz: Resources (Property)

Randy Stolze: Worship

Kelli Tobin: Generosity, Acting Clerk

Megan Zarodnansky: Spiritual Growth

DEACONS

Kerry Ascione

Shirley Carle

Nevaeh Carle-Mendez

Robin Compoly

Carol Cox

Jill Creveling

Wendy Dutch

Tina Ellis

Diana Griffith

Pat Lee

Jeanette Liddy

Diana Marsden

Michelle Schwartz

The Presbyterian Church on the Hill
10 Cold Indian Springs Road, Ocean, NJ 07712
phone: (732) 493-4110
website: PCOH.church
email: info@pcoh.church
YouTube: PCOHOcean