



**Bedford Presbyterian Church
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

August 30, 2020 at 10 AM

Worship-at-a-Distance Format

GATHERING TOGETHER

Chimes

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Elder Alicia Wooldridge

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Call to Worship (Responsive from Psalm 105)

Elder Alicia Wooldridge

O give thanks to the Lord and call on God's name.

Let us sing and give praise to the Lord and tell of all God's wonderful works.

Seek the Lord. Seek the strength God provides. Seek God's presence, always.

We remember the wonderful things that God has done.

Come, let us worship the Lord.

Let us worship God, together.

Hymn # 15 (see below)

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Verses 1, 3, and 6

Prayer of the Day

God of mystery and might, whose wonderful works are to be remembered, move in our lives, change our minds, soften our hearts, direct our feet, that we may follow you more faithfully. Yes, Lord, we long to hear your voice calling and seek to follow Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Sung Response

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me;
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me;
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, Amen.
World without end, without end, Amen. (Repeat 2x)
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, Amen.*

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Elder Alicia Wooldridge

First Scripture Reading

Matthew 16:21-28

Listen now for the Word of God.

Our ears are open. . .

Second Scripture Reading

Exodus 3:1-15

The Reverend Dr. David Reynolds

. . . The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“No Way! Way!”

Dr. Reynolds

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Hymn # 65 (see below)

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

CWM RHONDDA

Affirmation of Faith – The Apostle's Creed (2.1-2.3)

Deacon Charlene Isham

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

15 All Creatures of Our God and King

Unison

1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice
 2 O broth - er wind with clouds and rain, you nur - ture gifts
 3 O broth - er fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shad -
 4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain

Harmony

and with us sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 of fruit and grain. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 ous of the night. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 or sor - row grieve, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

O broth - er sun with gold - en beam, O sis - ter moon
 O sis - ter wa - ter, flow - ing clear, make mu - sic for
 Dear moth - er earth, who day by day un - folds such bless -
 Christ bears your bur - dens and your fears; so, e - ven in

Sometimes called "The Canticle of the Sun," this cosmic roll call allows human beings to give voice to all creation. One of the earliest religious poems in the Italian language, it is made even more expansive by this broad, repetitive melody with interspersed "Alleluias."

Harmony

with sil - ver gleam, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 your Lord to hear. Sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 ings on our way, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 the midst of tears, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,
 waiting to hush our final breath:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
 fair is the night that leads us home.
 Sing praises! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
 and worship God with humble heart.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
 Sing praises! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 65

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.

69 I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Here I Am, Lord

Leader or All

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

All

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

The stanzas here need to be understood as representing the voice of God, while the refrain (based on Isaiah 6:8) is the faithful human response to God's call. This becomes clearer if a leader or small group sings the stanzas, with the congregation joining on the refrain.

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Call for the Offering

Offertory

Special Music

Emily and Sarah Costello

*At this time, you are invited to offer your tithes and offerings,
by writing a check and putting it in an envelope to the church,
or through our church's online giving website
(<https://bedfordpresbyterian.org/giving/one-time-gifts-pledges/>),
or by scanning this QR code and making a donation.*



*Your giving has a direct impact on the ministry and mission
of Bedford Presbyterian Church!
Thank you!*

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

OR

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Holy God of holy ground, like Moses, we question our fitness to serve heaven's purposes on earth. Overcome our qualms with the assurance of your presence; bless these offerings that, through them, we may do your will; in your Holy name we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer ("debts/debtors")

Dr. Reynolds

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.

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn # 69 (see below)

"I, the Lord of Sea and Sky"

HERE I AM

Charge and Benediction and Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And with you.

Closing Song

NORTHUMBRIA MORNING BLESSING

*May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you.
May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.
May he bring you home, rejoicing, at the wonders he has shown you.
May he bring you home, rejoicing, once again into our doors.*

Postlude



Liturgists and Leaders in today's worship service –

The Reverend Dr. David Reynolds, Guest Preacher
Mrs. Barbara Flocco, Music Director
Elder Alicia Wooldridge, Liturgist
Deacon Charlene Isham, Liturgist
Emily and Sarah Costello, Soloists
Mr. Marc Murai and Elder Michael Chen, Sound and Video Technicians

Information on ways to access audio and video versions of today's service can be found at www.bedfordpresbyterian.org.