

Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church



Welcome to Worship at Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church!

Our faith community extends a warm welcome to all worshipping with us today and hopes that you will return often.

Welcoming All, Serving Christ, Transforming Lives

The Service for the Lord's Day;
9th Sunday after Pentecost; July 25, 2021
Our Vocalists are Jim Glass & Gail Midkiff.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS this Sunday are given by Carolyn & Reuben Womack to the glory of God and in memory of Brit LeCompte.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

Nancy Dawson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nancy Dawson

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*We offer God's peace to one another in the ancient words of the church:
"The peace of Christ be with you." & response "And also with you."*

PRELUDE

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

arr. Darley

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Julia Bryan, Liturgist

L: O give thanks to God; call on God's name. Make known God's deeds among the nations.

P: Sing to God, sing praises to God; tell of all God's wonderful works.

L: Glory in God's holy name; let the hearts of those who seek God rejoice!

P: We remember the wonderful works God has done, the miracles and the gift of God's grace.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Julia Bryan, Liturgist

Holy and merciful God, you provide for us far more than we expect or imagine possible. Your power and grace are present with us when our fears abound and you speak peace to us in our times of need. Gather us with all the saints of the church to glorify you for your mighty deeds. We pray in the strong name of Jesus. Amen

**Please stand*

***HYMN #32**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

1 I sing the mighty power of God
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad
and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day.

The moon shines full at God's command,
and all the stars obey.

2 I sing the goodness of the Lord
who filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures through the Word,
and then pronounced them good.

Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky!

3 There's not a plant or flower below
but makes thy glories known.
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne,
while all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that we can be,
thou, God, art present there.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Julia Bryan, Liturgist

Those who act as if there is no God are not the only ones who are foolish. Even in the midst of the miracles of life, we often do not acknowledge God's presence. And yet the Spirit is with us as the source of life. Therefore, let us confess our sins and receive Christ's mercy.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Julia Bryan Liturgist

Blessed Redeemer, have mercy upon us as we confess our sins. You endow us with goodness yet we squander your blessings. We yearn for the possessions that our neighbors enjoy and ignore the abundance you have poured out upon us. We doubt your faithfulness and fail to rely upon you when faced with impossible situations. Help us to trust your love and your grace. AMEN

(Please take a moment of silence for personal confession and reflection.)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Julia Bryan, Liturgist

The river of God's mercy runs deeper and wider than our sin. God removes our sins as far as the heavens are above the earth. Beloved, in the risen Christ, we are forgiven. Amen

CHORAL RESPONSE Hymn #425 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

1 There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.

2 For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving
for the goodness of our Lord.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Alex Haney

ANTHEM*Bread of Life from Heaven.....vs. 2-3-4*

Hymn #497

Bread of life from heaven,
 Your blood and body given,
 We eat this bread and drink this cup
 Until you come again.

2. Seek not the food that will pass away;
 Set your hearts on the food that endures.
 Come, learn the true and the living way,
 That the fullness of life may be yours.

3. Love as the One who, in love for you,
 Gave himself for the life of the world.
 Come to the One who is food for you,
 That your hunger and thirst be no more.

4. Dwell in the One who now dwells in you:
 Make your home in the life giving Word.
 Know only Christ, holy One of God,
 And believe in the truth you have heard.

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD**SCRIPTURE READING:**

John 6:1-21

Nancy Dawson

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.' When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. Then evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.

SERMON

Impossibilities are God's Specialties

Nancy Dawson

PRAYER from Ephesians 3:14-20 –

Nancy Dawson

My response is to get down on my knees before the Father, this magnificent Father who parcels out all heaven and earth. I ask him to strengthen you by his Spirit—not a brute strength but a glorious inner strength—that Christ will live in you as you open the door and invite him in. And I ask God that with both feet planted and rooted firmly on love, you'll be able to take in with all followers of Jesus the extravagant dimensions of Christ's love.

Reach out and experience the breadth of Christ's love! Test the length of Christ's love! Plumb the depths of Christ's love! Rise to the heights of Christ's love! Live full lives, full in the fullness of God.

God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! God does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

PRAYER OF PRAISE- Ephesians 3:21

Glory to God in the church!
Glory to God in the Messiah, in Jesus!
Glory down all the generations!
Glory forever and ever. Amen

HYMN #614

Great are You Lord

Great are you, Lord: you are holy and just; by your power we trust in your love.	Great are you, Lord and worthy of praise. Great are you, Lord.
Great are you, Lord: you are faithful and true; by your mercy you prove your love.	We lift up our voice; we lift up our voice: Great are you, lord! Great are you, Lord!
Great are you, Lord and worthy of glory!	

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Apostle's Creed*

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

We bring these gifts to you, O Lord, out of the abundance of your blessings. All that we are and all that we have come from you and are for your glory and your kingdom. Use these offerings that others may be fed with the spiritual food of new life. Use our life to share the good news of your love and power. AMEN

***HYMN #703**

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

1 Jesus, thy boundless love to me
 no thought can reach, no tongue declare;
 O knit my thankful heart to thee,
 and reign without a rival there!
 Thine wholly, thine alone, I'd live;
 myself to thee entirely give.

2 O grant that nothing in my soul
 may dwell, but thy pure love alone;
 O may thy love possess me whole,

my joy, my treasure, and my crown!
 All coldness from my heart remove;
 may every act, word, thought be love.

3 O Love, how gracious is thy way!
 All fear before thy presence flies;
 care, anguish, sorrow melt away
 where'er thy healing beams arise.
 O Jesus, nothing may I see,
 nothing desire, or seek, but thee.

BENEDICTION

Nancy Dawson

POSTLUDE

Sing and Rejoice Greatly

arr. Smith

Please remain seated during the postlude.

Staff

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Session

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 Bob Lockridge
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