

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;
14th Sunday after Pentecost; September 5, 2021
Our Vocalist is Gerald Doyle.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS this Sunday are given to the glory of God.

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

Wonderful Words of Life

arr. Davis

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Bob Beilfus, Liturgist

L: God is our refuge in whom we trust.

P: We gather together that God may uplift us.

L: Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.

P: We rejoice in God's steadfast love and are glad for God's faithfulness that redeems us.

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Bob Beilfus, Liturgist

We gather to worship you today for you alone are holy and worthy of our praise. We come from lives that are full of joys and challenges. Calm our hearts that we may focus on your power and grace and be uplifted in spirit. May we sense your presence in ways that remind us we are your own. In Jesus name, we pray, Amen.

*Please stand.

***HYMN #409**

God Is Here!

1 God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.

Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

2 Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;

here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.

3 Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore

what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Bob Beilfus, Liturgist

Jesus calls us to come acknowledge our sins against God, each other and ourselves. We come holding nothing in our hands, with no illusions of our own power to overcome sin. We rely wholly on you, O Lord, knowing your grace and mercy are available to us. Let us confess our sins first together then silently.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Bob Beilfus, Liturgist

O God, whose ways are not our ways, we confess that we have discounted or ignored your commandments. We have chosen our own standards rather than seeking your good. Our words and actions have hurt others and separated us from you. We have become so comfortable with our own sin that we find it hard to recognize. Forgive us, O God, that others may see the Christ in us again. AMEN

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

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Bob Beilfus, Liturgist

Just as Jesus made the deaf to hear and the mute to speak, our merciful God lifts our burdens from us, removes the failures of our past, and turns us to new life.

***CHORAL RESPONSE HYMN#432** *How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*

How clear is our vocation, Lord,
when once we heed your call
to live according to your word
and daily learn, refreshed, restored,
that you are Lord of all
and will not let us fall.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Exodus 3:1-12

Bob Beilfus, Lector

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

ANTHEM

O Christ, the Great Foundation

Hymn # 361

SCRIPTURE READING

I Peter 2:4-10

Nancy Dawson

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

SERMON

Living Stones

Nancy Dawson

*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.

***HYMN #503**

Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

1. Lord, we have come at your own invitation,
 Chosen by you, to be counted your friends;
 Yours is the strength that sustains dedication;
 Ours, a commitment we know never ends.

2. Here, at your table, confirm our intention;
 Give it your seal of forgiveness and grace;

Teach us to serve without pride or pretension.
 Lord, in your kingdom, whatever our place.

3. When, at your table, each time of returning,
 Vows are renewed and our courage restored,
 May we increasingly glory in learning
 All that it means to accept you as Lord.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PARTAKE OF THE ELEMENTS AS DIRECTED

PRAYER OF RESPONSE

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (unison)

Lord you have endowed our lives and the earth with bountiful blessings. We now return to you portions of what you have given us: our time, the fruits of our labors, our commitment. May the giving from the fullness of our lives be acceptable to you and we dedicate our gifts to your glory and honor. Amen

***HYMN #365**

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

1 All the way my Savior leads me—
 What have I to ask beside?
 Can I doubt His tender mercy,
 Who through life has been my guide?
 Heav'nly peace, divinest comfort,
 Here by faith in Him to dwell!
 For I know, whate'er befall me,
 Jesus doeth all things well;
 For I know, whate'er befall me,
 Jesus doeth all things well.

2 All the way my Savior leads me—
 Cheers each winding path I tread,
 Gives me grace for ev'ry trial,
 Feeds me with the living bread.
 Though my weary steps may falter
 And my soul athirst may be,
 Gushing from the rock before me,
 Lo! a spring of joy I see;
 Gushing from the rock before me,
 Lo! A spring of joy I see.

3 All the way my Savior leads me—
 Oh, the fullness of His love!
 Perfect rest to me is promised
 In my Father's house above.
 When my spirit, clothed immortal,
 Wings its flight to realms of day,
 This my song through endless ages:
 Jesus led me all the way;
 This my song through endless ages:
 Jesus led me all the way.

BENEDICTION

Nancy Dawson

POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power

arr. Broughton

Please remain seated during the postlude.