

June 13, 2021
3rd Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDES

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God Hopkins / Livingston
Summer Rollins

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: O praise the Lord with me, let us exalt God's name together.

P: Sing and give praise to God's name; tell the good news of salvation from day to day.

All: Let us worship God.

WELCOMING SONG #336

We Gather Together

Kremser

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; he chastens and hastens his will to make known; the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing. Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine; so from the beginning the fight we were winning; thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant, and pray that thou still our defender will be. Let thy congregation escape tribulation; thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

CALL TO CONFESSION (adapted from Isaiah 43)

L: When we pass through the deep waters or endure times of trial, the Lord our God is with us. With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer, let us confess our sin:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips dare to name and what our hearts can no longer carry. Set us free from a past we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Isaiah 43)

L: Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth! By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE #452 *Open the Eyes of My Heart* *Open the Eyes*
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see you; I want to see you;
to see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.
Pour out your power and love as we sing "Holy, holy, holy,"
Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. I want to see you.
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see you; I want to see you.

By Paul Baloche; ©1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. EMICMGPublishing.com); CCL #11043756

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy Spirit, as the word is read and proclaimed, teach us what we need to know. Inspire us, breathe in and through us. Lead us with your holy presence so that we may follow you without fear. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING – Psalm 30:2-12

² O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. ³ O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit. ⁴ Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. ⁵ For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. ⁶ As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved." ⁷ By your favor, O LORD, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed. ⁸ To you, O LORD, I cried, and to the LORD I made supplication: ⁹ "What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness? ¹⁰ Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me! O LORD, be my helper!" ¹¹ You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, ¹² so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

SPECIAL MUSIC

My Savior, My God
Soloist: Nancy Sullivan

Shust / Rouse

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING – Acts 9:1-20

⁹ Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and

at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision^a a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” ¹³ But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul^b and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

SERMON

“Eyes Closed”

Rev. John Wahl

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Prayer

Kenny G / Afanasief

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING SONG #451 *Open My Eyes, That I May See* *Open My Eyes*
***Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me. Place
in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my
eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!***
***Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear. And
while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my
ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!***
***Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere.
Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my
heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!***

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

With a Spirit of Joy

Broughton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Health and Safety Protocols

As we return to in-person worship services, we ask you to follow these guidelines:

- Windows will be open and fans turned on, so please dress to be comfortable.
- In order for proper distancing, please do not sit in the pews that have been blocked or directly next to people not in your family.
 - Please wear face coverings when inside the church building.
 - If you are not feeling well today, please stay home.
- Hymnals and pew bibles have been put away, the words are printed in the bulletin.
- At this time, we will not be passing the peace, the offering plate, or holding hands for the benediction at the close of the service.
- Since we are livestreaming the service, we ask that you remain seated in the pews during the prelude and postlude.
- After the worship service has concluded, we ask that you move outside for any extended conversations.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Any changes to these protocols will be shared in advance of Sunday gatherings.

Valley Lives

You are invited to participate in a new “Valley” outreach called “Valley Lives.” It will be a brief narrative from the members of the congregation to share their experiences from the time we spent apart during COVID. “Valley Lives” will give you a chance to share what has happened in your life; the challenges you faced; the adjustments you made to be connected with others; the faith that helped you handle the day to day; and, well, simply how you are. This will be included in the Summer Sunday services and scheduled at a date that is convenient for you. Please contact the church office or Nancy Sullivan; if you are interested.

Videographers Needed



We are looking for volunteers to film the worship service for livestreaming, with training and instructions provided. If you are interested in helping, please contact the church office or Elder Beth Krause.

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center:



Helyne will be making up 50 "BBQ Bags" at the end of June for July 4th. Picnic items are needed such as mustard, ketchup, mayo, relish, all-beef hot dogs (in 1 lb. pks.), ground beef (in 1 lb. pks.), hot dog buns, hamburger buns, chocolate bar packs, graham crackers, marshmallows, chips, cookies, small bag of charcoal.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations.

Pass-it-on Resale Store

Pass-It-On is currently receiving donations with pick-ups on request. Call the office for more information.



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, June 18

(10 a.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, June 19

(10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Meals for North Presbyterian Church

In lieu of our monthly community dinner, and in an effort to support North, we will be preparing and delivering Sunday meals for June 20. We are looking for help: preparing the meals in the church kitchen on Saturday, June 19 (10 a.m. – noon); donating desserts for the meals (by 10 a.m. on Saturday); and driving the meals to North on Sunday morning, June 20 (leaving at 10 a.m.). Please sign-up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f44aaaa2ba4f49-north1>
or through the church website.

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.valleypresbychurch.org

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Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan
Liturgist: Lois Urban

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeter: Bev Keough