

The Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair

Sunday, February 5, 2023

*If you are able, please stand.



10:00 a.m.

Please turn off cell phones.

WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

*"If the Lord says, 'Here I am,' he says, 'Here I am in the poor.'
[So] helping the poor, helping the oppressed is inherently
approaching God."*

Volker Leppin



Prelude

David Rimelis
Anne Marie Juliano

*Call to Worship

Graham Bridgeman

One: This morning we gather to worship our God.

All: We are people of many voices, and we call out as one:
Praise the Lord!

This morning we gather to seek the presence of God.

We are people of many experiences, and we call out as one:
Hear us, Lord!

This morning we gather to listen for God's Word.

We are a people of movement and momentum, and we slow as one:
Speak to us, Lord!

**This morning we gather to receive nourishment
of body and spirit.**

The table is set, and we trust in the promises of grace and of plenty.
Come, let us worship God!

*Opening Hymn 621

I Will Call Upon the Lord

Michael O'Shields

Prayer of Confession and Preparation

our silent prayers of preparation and confession

Hymn 658 (seated)

God Is So Good
(verses 1 & 2)

Traditional

Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

***We Give God Glory (Hymn #582)**

*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. (sing 3 times)
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

Welcome & Life of the Church

Pastor Greg Horn

(Please fill out the Friendship Pad completely and pass it along.)

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Time for Children

(All children are invited forward. Afterward, children preschool through 7th grade may attend Sunday School. If this is your child(ren)'s first time at Sunday School, please accompany and register them with their teacher.)

Scripture Reading (p.841 of OT) Isaiah 58:1-9a (NRSV)

- ¹Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.
²Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation
that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God.
³'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?'
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers.
⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.
⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?
⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard.
⁹Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help,
and he will say, Here I am.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading (p.202 of NT) 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (NRSV)

- ²⁵When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God
to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus
Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much
trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but
with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human
wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

⁹But, as it is written,

‘What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him’—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Where is God?”

Graham Bridgeman

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

We Worship With Our Offerings

Anthem

The Compassion Hymn

Getty/Townend arr. Larson

Chancel Choir

David Rimelis, violin

*There is an everlasting kindness You lavished on us.
When the radiance of heaven came to rescue the lost,
You called the sheep without a shepherd to leave their distress,
For Your streams are forgiveness and the shade of Your rest.
And with compassion for the hurting, You reached out Your hand,
As the lame ran to meet You and the dead breathed again.
You saw behind the eyes of sorrow and shared in our tears,
Heard the sigh of the weary, let the children draw near.*

*What boundless love, what fathomless grace You have shown us, oh God of compassion.
Each day we live an offering of praise as we show to the world Your compassion.*

*We stood beneath the cross of Calvary and gazed on Your face.
At the thorns of oppression and wounds of disgrace.
For surely You have borne our suffering and carried our grief.
As You pardoned the scoffer and showed grace to the thief.*

*How beautiful the feet that carry this gospel of peace
To the fields of injustice and the valleys of need.
To be a voice of hope and healing, to answer the cries
Of the hungry and helpless with the mercy of Christ.*

***We Give Praise to God**

Doxology

***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.***

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

One: The Lord be with you

All: and also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift our hearts to God.

Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God!

It is right to give God our thanks and praise...

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

Communion of the People

Solo

He Looked Beyond My Faults

Dottie Rambo

Denise Silecchia

*Amazing Grace will always be my song of praise,
For it was grace, that bought my liberty,
I do not know, just why He came to love me so.
He looked beyond my faults and saw my need.*

*I shall forever lift mine eyes to Calvary,
to view the cross, where Jesus died for me
How marvelous, His grace that caught my falling soul!
He Looked beyond my faults and saw my need.*

Prayer after Communion

***Closing Hymn 313**

Lord, Make Us More Holy

spiritual

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

GO WITH GOD – TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

WELCOME and thank you for your part in this service of worship. If you are a visitor here at the Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair (PCUM), you are especially welcome. May you sense in this place the presence and the love of God in Christ. After worship, you are warmly invited for refreshments and conversation in Fellowship Hall.

PLEASE ASK AN USHER for anything you might need, and please help fellow worshipers by exiting and entering the sanctuary at times other than during prayers or scripture readings.

CHILD CARE for toddlers and a nursery for younger children are always available during worship in the North Wing, located off Fellowship Hall (adjacent to sanctuary). Ask an usher for directions. **SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** for all children preschool through 7th grade are located in the North Wing. Ask the ushers or Christian Education leaders for help finding classrooms. If you are sending your kids to Sunday School for the first time and have not yet registered your child, please step out briefly with your children as they are dismissed to Sunday School to fill out an emergency contact form before returning to the sanctuary.

LORD'S SUPPER TODAY – Today we celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, also known as communion or the eucharist (*thanksgiving*). In the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Lord's Supper is the sign and seal (assurance) of God's grace in the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. At the table, Presbyterians trust that God's Holy Spirit, rather than our effort, brings us into Christ's real Presence, nourishes us in hope and sends us out to share in God's work in the world. All are welcome come acknowledging our brokenness and seeking reconciliation with God and each other. Children who are being nurtured in the significance of the Lord's Supper—at their level of understanding and with parental/ guardian permission—are invited to share in communion. Welcome.

SUPPORT THE DEACONS' MINISTRY – Today and every Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of each month, the PCUM family uses the green envelopes in your pew rack to support the Deacons' ministries of compassion, care, and community-building. You can also click on "Give" at pcum.org and specify "Deacons' Fund" or mail your check to the church. Thank you!



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: FEBRUARY 22 @ 7:30 pm.— On February 22nd at 7:30 p.m. you are invited to an experience-based service of worship designed for the whole family. PCUM's 60-minute Ash Wednesday service starts the season of Lent in a way that will deepen the meaning—and your appreciation—of Easter six weeks later! Led by the Chancel Choir and guided by hymns and scriptures, we will focus on our shared humanness and need for God. The service concludes with the imposition of ashes on foreheads or the back of hands, as the PCUM family sets off together to follow Jesus through and beyond death—and then to resurrection joy!

FIRESIDE ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE FOR CHILDREN - Wednesday, February 22 at 5:30pm: Children are invited to a special fireside Ash Wednesday service at the home of Millie Tourtelot, PCUM's Director of Christian Education. They will be joined by Pastor Greg and Ms. Anne Marie for a brief, interactive worship service, where they will have the opportunity to receive ashes if they wish. Please RSVP to Millie at millie@pcum.org for location details and other information.

THE MIDNIGHT RUN Saturday, February 25TH – DONATE WINTER COATS, SOCKS & HATS – PCUM's Midnight Run is back! All teens 14 and over are invited to take part in this exciting, meaningful ministry the night of Saturday, February 25th. Volunteers take soup and sandwiches along with winter coats, personal items, and toiletries into New York City from 10 pm-12:30 am, meeting and connecting with homeless neighbors. To take part, contact Youth Director Garrett Pahl at youth@pcum.org or Pastor Greg at greghorn@pcum.org. Also, watch your email and future Sunday announcements for how to donate winter items. Thank you!

PLEASE SUBMIT 2023 PLEDGE CARDS! –PCUM's 2023 stewardship theme, *Coming Home to Today's Church*, invites members & friends to support this church's many worthwhile ministries in the year ahead. Pledge cards are available in the narthex this morning, or submit your pledge online at www.pcum.org; just click on the online pledge card link on the homepage, or use the church app and the QR code. Thank you!



CAN YOU VOLUNTEER TO HELP SERVE HUNGRY NEIGHBORS? Saturday dates are available for you (& your family) to join other PCUM volunteers to serve hungry neighbors here in Montclair on the 4th Saturday the month and in Newark on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Serving is a great way to help others, make new friends, and experience God's love. **Sign up at** www.pcum.org/serve-others/local-opportunities-to-serve-homeless-neighbors.



PCUM'S GOT TALENT - SAVE THE DATE! Sunday, March 12th at 4:00 p.m. The popular PCUM's GOT TALENT showcase returns to Fellowship Hall! It's fun, fellowship, coffee, dessert – *and talent* – as PCUMers of all ages (kids, youth & adults) come together to perform and raise money for Music Ministry! Singers, dancers, comics, actors, yo-yo enthusiasts – whatever ever your talent – we need you! Please contact Anne Marie Juliano at annemarie@pcum.org (973-930-5074) to participate!

PCUM'S MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP meets Wednesdays from 7- 8:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. All teens and tweens 6th – 8th grade are warmly invited to come out to have fun, share dinner, and meet old and new friends. Questions? Contact Youth Director, Garrett Pahl at youth@pcum.org.

DO YOU LOVE TO SING? PCUM'S CHANCEL CHOIR rehearses Thursday evenings from 7-8:30p.m. in the choir room. All adults (high school age and up) are welcome and invited to come and participate. You don't need to be able to read music, and you don't need to be at every rehearsal. Contact Anne Marie Juliano, Director of Music Ministries at annemarie@pcum.org for more information.

DEDICATE FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP – You can honor loved ones and beautify PCUM's worship experience by dedicating flowers for any Sunday morning worship service. Your flower dedication will appear in the worship bulletin and will help defray the cost of this important weekly part of PCUM's worship life. The suggested donation for two standard bouquets is \$80. Sign up on the Flower Calendar in the Deacons' Corner or online at www.pcum.org.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2023 are available. If you would like envelopes, please request them on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or contact the Church Office at pcum@pcum.org or 973-746-3854. A box of envelopes will be available for you to pick up the following Sunday. You can also give online to support PCUM at www.pcum.org/give and/or set up automatic payment through your bank. Thank you!



PCUM's *Core Values*:

Thoughtful, Nourishing Worship ✝ *Vibrant Ministry to Children & Youth*

Relationships ✝ *Participation* ✝ *Service to Others and to the World* ✝ *Relevance and Authenticity*

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Pastor & Head of Staff:
The Rev. Gregory A. Horn
Director of Music Ministries:
Anne Marie Juliano
Director of Christian Education:
Millie Tourtelot
Pastoral Intern: Graham Bridgeman
Youth Director: Garrett Pahl
Church Administrator: Denise Silecchia
Livestream Techs:
Tres Williams and Jerome Nelson
Sexton: Jimmy Abad