



A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

September 19, 2021

11:00am

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

PEACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

301 Guinness Drive ▪ Winterville, North Carolina 28590-9943 ▪ (252) 355-2273

www.peacepresbyterian.org

Grow in Grace, Live in Peace, Serve the Lord

We Gather as God's People

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PRELUDE

To a Wild Rose
Peace Handbell Quartet

Edward MacDowell arr. Larry Sue

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 19: 7-14

Jesse Riggs, liturgist

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

The commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;

The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;

The ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;

Sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

*HYMN #41

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above

O worship the King, all glorious above! O gratefully sing, God's power and God's love:

Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

**O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace, whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form; and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.**

**The earth with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, your power has founded of old;
established it fast by a changeless decree, and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Amid the countless things that human beings cannot fully comprehend about God, this is the witness of the gospel: God so loves us as to surround us with love and forgive our sins. Confident in the mercy of God, let us pray together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, while we were slaves to sin, you died for our salvation. Yet we still worship the false gods of this world, forgetting that you are Lord. Loving worldly wealth, we have not loved you with our whole hearts nor loved our neighbors as ourselves. Trusting worldly strength, we have not trusted your word nor followed the Word-made-flesh in Jesus Christ. Forgiving by worldly norms, we have not shown mercy to others as you have shown mercy to us. Forgive us. Give us courage and boldness to respond to your call in our own day and time. Hear now our silent confessions.

(Silent Prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, hear the good news of the gospel: Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. And Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. Believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE TO GOD'S FORGIVENESS O Worship the King, All Glorious Above

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in you do we trust, nor find you to fail; your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

We Share God's Word

SCRIPTURE READING

Esther 4:9-17

SERMON

"For Such a Time as This: Practicing Inclusion"

Reverend Debbie Osterhoudt

We Respond to God's Word

SPECIAL MUSIC

O Christ, The Healer, We Have Come

Richard Gieseke

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

OFFERING

Offertory

Offertory Music

Schlummerlied (Slumber Song)

Robert Schumann

*Doxology No. 606

*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND OUR 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.

We Go Forth As God's People

***HYMN #69**

I. The Lord of Sea and Sky

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here, I am Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?
(Refrain)

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

May the Love of the Lord

SOON TI

May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.
May God's love dwell in you, throughout every day.
May God's countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you.
May God's Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.

POSTLUDE

Invention No 1 in C major, BWV 772

J.S. Bach

***You are invited to stand.**

Worship Leadership Reverend Debbie Osterhoudt, Preacher Jesse Riggs, Liturgist
Peggy Vaughan, Music Director John Holter, piano Chancel Choir Peace Handbell Quartet
Ron Skinner, audio and video Ushers: Anna Bridgman, Christopher Dennis, Lisa Jones, Dan Smith
Worship Ministry Team Chair, Joanne Lang

Peace Presbyterian Church Session

Class of 2021

Cassie Billings, Congregational Life
Jim Bryant, Communications
Charles White, Building & Grounds

Class of 2022

George Bosch, Building & Grounds
Ruth Hines, Communications
Lisa Jones, Treasurer and Finance
Joanne Lang, Worship

Class of 2023

Pam Gares, Mission
Janet Johnson, Personnel and Mission
Russ Lemken, Christian Education
Jesse Riggs, Clerk of Session and
Building & Grounds

WORSHIP NOTES Based on CDC data and the dramatic rise in COVID 19 infection rate in our county and state, we are **requiring** that all people wear masks during worship. Masks will be available at the welcome table. We are also delaying the re-opening/re-start of other activities for the time being and we will re-evaluate during our September Session meeting.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE During the month of September, the Session and the Mission Team are asking the people of Peace to contribute to a special offering. The offering will be given to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (pda.PCUSA.org) for three different purposes that are in our hearts and minds today. **(1)** to benefit new programs providing assistance to refugees and displaced persons in Afghanistan; **(2)** ongoing relief efforts in Haiti follow the recent earthquake and **(3)** those affected by Hurricane Ida.

To participate in this important offering, make checks payable to Peace, and include PDA on the memo line. All of what is given will go directly to the relief efforts of PCUSA.

Related to this, Peace has recently sent, from our Missions budget, a \$1,000 donation to Doctors Without Borders (doctorswithoutborders.org) to support medical and related relief efforts in Haiti and \$1,000 for Hurricane Ida relief efforts.