



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God

June 18, 2023

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

**Indicates an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit as you are able.*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

TOWER BELLS

PRELUDE

Aria

Peeters

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 27:1-4, 7-9

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One thing I asked of the Lord, that I will seek after;

**To live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.**

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious unto me and answer me.

“Come” my heart says, “seek his face!”

Your face, Lord, I do seek.

Do not hide your face from me O God of my salvation.

Come, let us worship God.

*HYMN 263 (V.1-4)

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God most gracious and most wise, your voice reaches out from the heavens through your son Jesus Christ to call us to faithful discipleship in your name. But we confess this morning that we have often ignored your call to follow and instead pursued our own self interests. Your call commands personal sacrifice but we have given up little. Your call requires peaceful coexistence with all people but we continue to quarrel and fight. Your call insists that we tell the gospel story to all who would listen, but we find ourselves too often silent. Forgive us, O Lord, as people who have forsaken your call, and send your Spirit to strengthen us so that we too may follow.

Silent prayer

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear now the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us. Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation; the old life is gone and a new life has begun. Know that we are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen. Amen.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 6:1-8

Matthew 4:12-23

SERMON

Gone Fish'in!

Rev. Vernon Van Hise

SOLO

Arioso from 100th Psalm

S. Jadassohn
Elizabeth Campbell, soprano

God, 'tis God that made us all;
not we ourselves, we are his holy people and the flock of his own pasture;
God, that made us all, his holy people, his holy flock, his children all.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF RULING ELDERS AND DEACONS

STATEMENT OF THE NATURE OF MINISTRIES

PRESENTATION

**previously ordained*

Elders

Bill Bartlett*
Bill Schroeher*
Noralee Manzek*
Jim Middendorf*
Candy Gulotta*
Bud Martin

Deacons

Carol Schroeher*
Linda Martin
Carol Butler

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS (page 5)

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Do we, the members of the First Presbyterian Church of Easton, accept as Ruling Elders and Deacons these who have been called and chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is the Head of the Church?

We do.

PRAYER AND THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

All previously ordained Teaching and Ruling Elders are invited to come forward to join in prayer and the laying on of hands.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Humbled by God's generosity, let us offer our gifts to God and God's ministries through Christ's church.

Please leave your offering in the box at the front of the sanctuary or make your gifts online or via mail.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to witness to Christ's ministry in your world. Amen.

*RESPONSE

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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.

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN 525 (V.1-3)

Here I Am, Lord

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Praise the Almighty, My Soul Adores Him

Peeters

The flowers on the communion table are to welcome Rev. Vernon (Larry) Van Hise to First Presbyterian Church of Easton. Rev. Van Hise was chosen by Session to lead our congregation as part-time temporary supply pastor, working 20 hours per week. He will lead us in worship, moderate session, and work with team leaders as we discern the future of our church. Rev. Van Hise will provide hospital visitation and plans to be in the church office two half-days per week (days and hours to be determined).

*Please meet and greet Rev. Van Hise during coffee hour after worship today.
Coffee and cake are provided by the Board of Deacons.*

Rev. Van Hise is a life-long Presbyterian, having served as a Clerk of Session and is an ordained Deacon and Elder as well as a Teaching Elder. Before attending Princeton Theological Seminary, he was in the Marine Corps as a fighter pilot for seven years and is a Vietnam veteran. A graduate of Rutgers College, he worked on Wall Street for the Bank of New York for 22 years and retired when the call from God to go to seminary could no longer be avoided. He has served numerous churches in New Jersey and Pennsylvania as an interim pastor. He and his wife Angie (also an ordained Presbyterian minister) retired to Moravian Village here in Bethlehem after selling their Angus beef farm near Hershey, PA. They are blessed with three daughters, a son-in-law and five grandchildren.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Vernon Van Hise

Gloria Snyder, Organist

Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director

Peter Becker, Liturgist

Tech Support: Jacob Van Norman, Bill Bartlett, Rich Linnell, Pat Koefoed

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Constitutional Questions to Ruling Elders and Deacons

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in One God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline?

Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity and purity of the church?

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination and love?

For Ruling Elders

Will you be a faithful Ruling Elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture and service?

Will you share in government and discipline, serving in the councils of the church and in your ministry, will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

For Deacons

Will you be a faithful Deacon, teaching charity, urging concern and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?