

May 26th, 2024

Our PCAS Vision: "To be a Light by Living, Loving,
Learning, and Sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Order of Worship

*(*Please rise in body and/or spirit)*

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Spirit of the Living God Tim Smith

Lighting of the Candle

***Call to Worship**

Leader: God, who flung the stars into the night sky,
rejoices over all creation, especially us!

**People: Come to us, Laughing God, and gladden
our hearts with your goodness and grace.**

Leader: Christ, the Word of joy and life,
fills all creation with hope, especially us!

**People: Come to us, Brother and Savior, and reclaim
our hearts as your own.**

Leader: The Spirit, who breathes life into emptiness,
gives all creation the gift of peace, especially us!

**People: Come to us, Spirit of Gentleness, and refresh us
with the dew of delight.**

***Hymn #49** The God of Abraham Praise

Call to Confession

Leader: Let us pray together, seeking to draw near to God and nearer to
the people of God:

Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of Wisdom and Understanding,

**We confess that we are afraid to ask questions - the kind that
desire to get to know you better and the kind that show curiosity
and interest in the people around us. We are afraid that our
questions are impolite, or betray our ignorance. We hold back and
find that faces we see frequently are still strangers without names
or identities. We hold back and find that we only know you as a
sketch when we could know you in brilliant color and detail.**

Forgive us, O Lord, and replace our fear with the joy of learning, growing, and understanding you and the neighbors you have gifted us better. Amen.

Moment for Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Here, in this moment and in this place, the Spirit of gentleness moves in our midst. Mercy, hope and joy are the gifts of God to each and every one of us.

People: Filled with God's Spirit, we find we are no longer alone or hesitant. We are forgiven. We forgive one another. Strangers become friends. We are drawn near to the God who draws near to us.

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson: Romans 8:12-17

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God!**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the Church and 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.**

Passing the Peace

***Hymn #39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

Second Scripture Lesson John 3:1-17

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks Be to God!**

Sermon "Whole Life Makeover"

**Offering
Offertory**

What Wondrous Love Is This

John Hoffman

***Doxology**



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise *him, all crea - tures
here be - low; praise *him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn** Nicodemus Sought Out Jesus

Benediction

Postlude I Danced In the Morning Tim Smith

Worship Leaders

Pastor:	Rev. Katja Gruening
Director of Music Ministries:	Marcello Velame
Liturgist:	John Hanley
Music Ministry:	Chancel Choir
Ushers:	Rich Vodhanel
	Peter Bruguere
	Joyce Davies
Zoom Hosts:	John Palframan
	Rich Vodhanel
Social Hour:	Deacons

49 The God of Abraham Praise

1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove,
 2 Your spir - it still flows free, high surg - ing where it will.
 3 Your good - ly land we seek, with peace and plen - ty blest,
 4 You have e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul;

the An - cient of E - ter - nal Days, the God of love!
 In proph - et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
 a land of sa - cred lib - er - ty and Sab - bath rest.
 your love shall be our strength and stay, while a - ges roll.

The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed,
 Es - tab - lished is your law, and change-less it shall stand,
 There milk and hon - ey flow, and oil and wine a - bound,
 We praise you, liv - ing God! We praise your ho - ly name:

we bow be - fore your ho - ly name, for - ev - er blest.
 deep writ up - on the hu - man heart by your strong hand.
 and trees of life for - ev - er grow with mer - cy crowned.
 the first, the last, be - yond all thought, and still the same!

Shaped by its traditional Jewish tune, this selection of English stanzas conveys the essence of the *Yigdal*, a canticle based on a medieval Hebrew statement of faith about the nature of God and often used in synagogue worship, alternately chanted by cantor and congregation.

TEXT: Moses Maimonides, 12th cent.; vers. Daniel ben Judah Dayan, 1404; stanzas 1, 3, trans. Thomas Olivers, c.1770, alt.; LEONI stanzas 2, 4, trans. Max Landsberg, Newton M. Mann, and William C. Gannett, 1884, 1910, alt. 6.6.8.4.D
 MUSIC: Jewish melody, 17th cent.; adapt. Meyer Lyon and Thomas Olivers, 1770

39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

Nicodemus Sought Out Jesus

NETTLETON 8.7.8.7 D ("Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing")

1. Ni - co - de - mus sought out Je - sus at a lone - ly, qui - et
2. "Born a - gain!" said Ni - co de - mus. "Is that some - thing one can
3. God, your Spir - it still sur - pri - ses like an ev - er - chang - ing

hour. He said, "Teach - er, God is with you! For in
do?" Je - sus said, "Don't be sur - prised now that you
wind, bring - ing life and love and jus - tice where des -

you must we see God's power." Je - sus turned and gave an
pair be and born a - new. And it's not see by your Spir - it
death have been. May we see your own

an - swer filled with chal - lenge and with love: "You can
do - ing; wind and a Spir - it will blow free! They are
work - ing as a - gift from heav'n a - bove. Blest, may

nev - er see God's king - dom till you're born from heav'n a - bove."
not for your con - trol - ling; trust in God for what will be."
we then be a - bles - sing to this world that you so love.

Biblical Reference: John 3:1-17

Tune: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813.

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27	MAY, MON	● 11am – 4pm	Queen of Hearts Duplicate Bridge (FH)
28	MAY, TUE	● 9 – 10:30am	Zoom Bible Study
		● 9:30 – 10:30am	Wisdom Tree Yoga (FH)
		● 11am – 12pm	Overeaters Anonymous (TR)
		● 5 – 7pm	Mental Health Association of Monmouth County (FH)
29	MAY, WED	● 4:30 – 5:30pm	Wisdom Tree Yoga (FH)
		● 7 – 9pm	Boy Scouts (FH)
		● 8 – 9pm	Igreja Presbiteriana Gethsemani Bible Study (TR)
30	MAY, THU	● 6 – 8pm	Choir pot luck
		● 7 – 9pm	Igreja Presbiteriana Gethsemani choir practice (FH)
1	JUN, SAT	● 8 – 9:30am	Men's Group (offsite)
		● 7:30 – 9pm	AA (TR and FH)
2	JUN, SUN	● 8:45 – 9:30am	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
		● 10 – 11am	Sunday School
		● 10 – 11am	Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
		● 11am – 12pm	Coffee Hour (FH)
		● 3:30 – 4:30pm	AA (TR)
		● 5 – 6pm	AA (TR)
		● 6 – 9pm	Igreja Presbiteriana Gethsemani Worship (FH)