

The Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair



Sunday, September 12, 2021

10:00 a.m.

*If you are able, please stand.

Please turn off cell phones.

WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

"The events in our lives happen in a sequence in time, but in their significance to ourselves they find their own order, a timetable not necessarily — perhaps not possibly — chronological. ... This has been the case with [my own life]. Connections slowly emerge. Like distant landmarks you are approaching, cause and effect begin to align themselves, draw closer together. Experiences too indefinite ... at the time to be recognized for themselves connect ... And suddenly a light is thrown back, as when your train makes a curve, showing that there has been a mountain of meaning rising behind you on the way you've come..."

Eudora Welty, *One Writer's Beginnings*

Prelude

Anne Marie Juliano

***Call to Worship**

The Rev. Margo Walter

Leader: Come to the water, all you who thirst— come drink deeply from the river of life.

People: Come to the water, all you who are weary— come rest in the quiet pools of God's love.

L: Come to the water, all you who long for justice— come be renewed in God's ever-flowing stream.

P: Come to the water, all who would be freed from the brokenness within us and around us.

All: Because, in Christ, God is here among us, washing away the dust and grime of our lives, refreshing and recalling us to abundant living, pouring out the Spirit on all who thirst.

Let us worship God together! Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

Nicaea

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of six systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark-ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
per - fect in power, in love and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Prayer of Preparation and Confession

Pastor Greg Horn

our silent prayers of preparation and confession

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.**

Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

***We Give God Glory**

*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

Time for Children

The Sacrament of Baptism

Charlotte Anne Walter

Welcome and Introduction

Questions to the Child's Parents

Do you intend your daughter to be baptized?

Do you trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

*Do you promise to worship and serve God wherever you may be
and to live and teach your faith to your daughter that she may grow
and live all her days in the presence of the living God?*

Questions to the Child's Church Family

Elder Laura Phillips

*Do you, the brothers and sisters in Christ of this child of God,
representing the church universal in every time and place,
promise, through your prayer and example, to support
and encourage Charlotte from this day forward?*

We do.

Do you, the people of the church, *promise to tell* Charlotte the good news of the Gospel, *to show* her the reality of God's love in your words and actions, *to pray* for her that she may grow to know the love and the teaching of Jesus Christ, and—by your fellowship and your own commitment to Christ's church— *to strengthen* her family ties within the household of God?

We do.

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Act of Baptism

The Presentation

*Baptism Hymn

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

Kingdom

1 Child of bless - ing, child of prom - ise, bap - tized
 2 Child of love, our love's ex - pres - sion, love's cre -
 3 Child of joy, our dear - est trea - sure, God's you
 4 Child of God, your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to

with the Spir - it's sign, with this wa - ter God has
 a - tion, loved in - deed! Fresh from God, re - fresh our
 are, from God you came. Back to God we hum - bly
 lis - ten for God's call. Grow to laugh and sing and



WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Reading from God's Word – Exodus 12:21-28 (NRSV)

²¹ Then Moses called all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go, select lambs for your families, and slaughter the passover lamb. ²² Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and touch the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood in the basin. None of you shall go outside the door of your house until morning. ²³ For the Lord will pass through to strike down the Egyptians; when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the Lord will pass over that door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you down. ²⁴ You shall observe this rite as a perpetual ordinance for you and your children. ²⁵ When you come to the land that the Lord will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this observance. ²⁶ And when your children ask you, ‘What do you mean by this observance?’ ²⁷ you shall say, ‘It is the passover sacrifice to the Lord, for he passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt, when he struck down the Egyptians but spared our houses.’” And the people bowed down and worshiped.

²⁸ The Israelites went and did just as the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Solo

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

arr. Dale Wood

Karen Merchant, soprano

*Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty, hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore.*

*Open now the crystal fountain where the healing waters flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, shield me with your mighty arm.*

*When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Light of light and heaven's healing, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises, I will raise forevermore!*

(**Children aged 3-8 are invited to the East Lawn for supervised activities and fun.)

Reading from God's Word – Psalm 103 (NRSV)

- ¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.
- ² Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—
- ³ who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
- ⁴ who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
- ⁵ who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- ⁶ The Lord works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.
- ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
- ⁸ The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- ⁹ He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
- ¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- ¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- ¹² as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.
- ¹³ As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.
- ¹⁴ For he knows how we were made;
he remembers that we are dust.
- ¹⁵ As for mortals, their days are like grass;
they flourish like a flower of the field;
- ¹⁶ for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.
- ¹⁷ But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting
on those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,
- ¹⁸ to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.
- ¹⁹ The Lord has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.
- ²⁰ Bless the Lord, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his bidding,
obedient to his spoken word.
- ²¹ Bless the Lord, all his hosts,
his ministers that do his will.
- ²² Bless the Lord, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.
Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn

Fill My Cup

spiritual

Fill my cup; let it o - ver - flow; fill my

cup; let it o - ver - flow; fill my cup; let it

o - ver - flow; let it o - ver - flow with love. *Fine*

1 Lord, let me be your in - stru - ment, spread - ing
2 It's my de - sire to live for you and to

sun - shine in the land; let peo - ple see your
al - ways walk up - right; give me the strength to

works in me; help me live the best I can.
face each day; stay with me through each dark night.

G C Am Caug

C

F C G Em7

Am7 Dm7 G2 to Refrain

Prayers of the People (Prayer Dedicating the Offering)

*Closing Hymn

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Ein' Feste Burg

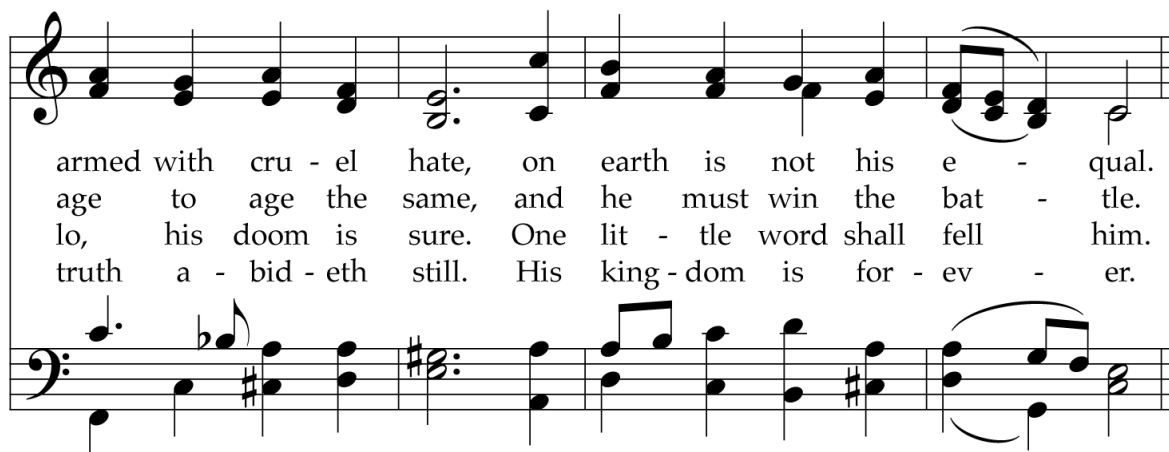
(verses 1, 2 & 4)

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we
him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and
Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from
trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for
mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's



***Charge and Benediction**

***We Give Praise to God – We Offer Our Gifts to God** (plates at main door)

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.*

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. You and your fellow worshipers are warmly invited to gather outside the church on the East Lawn to greet one another after the service.

PLEASE ASK AN USHER for anything you might need. Whenever possible, please help your 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 PreK through 7th grade start next Sunday, September 19th (“Kick-Off Sunday”). After today’s children’s sermon, children 3 through 8 years of age may go outside to the East Lawn for supervised activities and fun.



RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM this morning is **Charlotte Anne “Charlie” Walter**, daughter of Joe and Erin Walter and granddaughter of Frank and the Rev. Margo Walter. Presenting Charlotte to be baptized on behalf of her PCUM family is Elder Laura Phillips. Representing Charlotte’s church family and the circle of loved ones celebrating her life and God’s love for her in Christ are her aunt, Elizabeth Suarez, and her uncle, Sam Walter.

BAPTISM IN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) celebrates the truth that God’s love claims us even before we are able to respond in faith. In the PC (USA), baptism itself does not bring about salvation, but is an outward sign pointing to God’s loving and free gift to us of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The waters of baptism represent the washing away of all brokenness that separates us from God, our dying and rising with Christ, and an adoption into the covenant family of Christ’s Body, the church. The entire congregation, on behalf of the worldwide Christian church, assumes responsibility for nurturing the baptized children in the Christian life.

"KICK-OFF SUNDAY" is NEXT SUNDAY – Next Sunday, September 19th, PCUM's 2021-2022 Sunday School program year begins with a celebratory gathering of children K-7th grade and teachers following Children's Time during the 10:00 am Sunday morning service. Then, after the service, all worshipers are warmly invited to connect with old and new friends on the church's East Lawn for "Kick-Off Sunday" music, children's games (including the annual favorite, the dunk tank!), and safely-packaged snacks.

TEACHERS NEEDED! KEEPING BAPTISMAL PROMISES – PCUM is committed to children, and **volunteer Sunday School teachers are needed** to join a rotating team of teachers who share their time, their questions, and their love with amazing kids. Lots of guidance and support provided! Contact Jordan Green, Youth Director (jordan@pcum.org).

YOUTH GROUP: Middle Schoolers (6-8 grade) meets Tuesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Senior Highs meet for breakfast on the second Sunday of the month from 8:45-9:45 a.m. and for youth group on third Sunday of every month from 4-5:30 p.m. Both Middle Schoolers and Senior Highs are welcome to attend *Friday Fun Night* on the 4th Friday of every month from 7-9:00 p.m. and to participate in various mission and service activities throughout the year. For more information, please contact Youth Director Jordan Green at (jordan@pcum.org). See you there!

PCUM'S CHILDREN'S CHOIR MINISTRY (2nd-5th graders) teaches children to love music and lead their church family in worship. Kids not only learn the song, but they also learn how to sing. They also grow spiritually, grow in confidence and self-discipline, and grow to feel more at home in their church. Rehearsals are Thursday afternoons, from 4:00-5:00 p.m., in the Choir Room with Julie Platte, **beginning on September 23rd**. For more information, please email juliebplatte@gmail.com.

CHANCEL CHOIR rehearsals for adults are weekly on **Thursdays at 7:30p.m.** in the choir room. First-time (and sporadic) singers are always welcome! For more information, contact Director of Music Ministries, Anne Marie Juliano at ajulianos@gmail.com or (973) 930-5074).

HELP FEED & SERVE HUNGRY MONTCLAIR NEIGHBORS: Dates are available for you (and your family) to serve at the M.E.S.H. Cafe, which prepares and serves the evening meal to hungry and homeless neighbors here in Montclair on the **1st & 4th Saturdays** of the month. There are opportunities to prepare food, serve meals, and sing and/or play music for guests. Volunteers are especially needed for September 25 and October 3. Sign up at www.pcum.org.

HONOR OR MEMORIALIZE LOVED ONES by dedicating flowers for PCUM's Sunday morning worship service on any Sunday throughout the remaining calendar year. The suggested donation for two standard bouquets is \$80; dedications appear in the morning bulletin. Sign up using the Flower Calendar in the Deacons' Corner or online at www.pcum.org.

CATCH UP OR PAY AHEAD ON YOUR PLEDGE – As we come out of summer and enter into fall, your financial commitment to PCUM's ministry will go a long way toward helping your congregation's ministry navigate these challenging times. Please consider catching up or paying ahead on your 2021 pledge, or—if you haven't pledged—please prayerfully consider giving generously to the life and work of this church. You can give in-person, through the mail, or online. To give online, just go to www.pcum.org and click on the "Give" tab. If you have questions or any problems, please contact the Church Office at pcum@pcum.org.

PCUM'S COVID GUIDELINES: With the maximum number of PCUM worshipers' health and well-being in mind, the Session has adopted a comprehensive, cautious set of protocols to govern this transition. After this initial period, if infection rates keep dropping and vaccination rates continue to rise, the Session will move to ease restrictions further. For this first phase back, here are several of the most important protocols/restrictions to keep in mind:

* **Registration** (online and in-person) **and check-in will be required.** Those registering will be asked to provide the names of each person who will be worshiping as part of their group. Registration links can be found on the church website at www.pcum.org or in church emails.

* **All worshipers**, either individuals or groups (families), **will sit in assigned, safely-distanced seats.** Ushers will guide you to your assigned seats. Please follow ushers' instructions at all times. * The **maximum number of persons** allowed in the sanctuary at one time will be **160**. Movement within the sanctuary will be limited. **Worship leaders are fully vaccinated** and will be distanced from worshipers.

* **Masks will be required for all worshipers** (who are not leading worship) whether speaking or singing, at all times while in the building. This is the start of a new phase in our community's recovery to "normal," and each of us has their own level of comfort as to how quickly we get there. Again, it is the first step, one we're all taking together. In order to maximize the number of PCUM worshipers who will feel welcome in this initial phase, PCUM's leaders have chosen to err on the side of caution by requiring masks at this time. In addition, all or most children and younger teens in our church family have not yet been vaccinated. Thank you for respecting and adhering to this requirement.

* **Worshipers are respectfully asked and strongly encouraged to ARRIVE EARLY** (at least 10 minutes early) during this initial transition phase. This will allow time for you and other worshipers to be checked-in and seated--and allow the service to start on time. Late-comers will be seated only at a specific, pre-determined moment, well after the service has started.

* **A Sunday offering will be received at the conclusion of each service**, as worshipers exit the sanctuary. Offering plates will be stationed near the entrance to the sanctuary so that worshipers may make their offerings as they arrive or depart.

* On the first Sunday of each month the **Sacrament of the Lord's Supper** (Communion) is celebrated using **pre-made, sealed Communion elements**, distributed to all worshipers as they arrive.

* **Worship services will continue to be live-streamed** on PCUM's YouTube channel.

Please continue to pray for God's blessing for this church's ministry and a safe, healthy return to indoor worship. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Greg Horn at greghorn@pcum.org.

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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Youth Director

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Children's Music Directors

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Financial Administrator: Quinn Egan

Sexton: Jimmy Abad