



## SUNDAY WORSHIP

June 26, 2022 9:00 am

*“Every lament is a love song” - Nicholas Wolterstorff*

Chimes and Prelude

10,000 Reasons  
Arr. Lloyd Larson

\*Call to Worship

Day by day, God leads us:

**to the deep pools of peace.**

Day by day, Jesus calls us:

**to pour out ourselves in service,  
to anoint the stranger with hope.**

Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:

**the community we could be,  
the family we are called to become.**

Let us worship the Lord!

\*Hymn # 37

Let All Things Now Living

\*Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, we confess those things we try to conceal from you  
and the things we try to conceal from others.**

**We confess the heartbreak, worry, and sorrow we have caused,  
the times we have made it easy for others to do wrong,  
the harm we have done that makes it hard for us to forgive ourselves.  
Lord have mercy and forgive us through Christ. Amen.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

**God does not treat us as our sins deserve  
or repay us according to what we've done to others.**

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God's love  
for those who fear him.

**As far as the east is from the west,  
so far has God removed our transgressions from us.**

\*Response

Meineke

**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.**

Passing of the Peace

*As Passing of the Peace concludes, children are invited to meet their teachers at the back of the  
Sanctuary for VBS. Parents can pick their children up at 10:30 in Social Hall (ground floor).*

Welcome & Ministry Updates

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 53:1-12

Special music

Adagio in G Minor  
Tomaso Albinoni

Prayers of the People 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.**

\*Prayer of Dedication and Doxology

Old 100th

**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.**

\*Hymn # 310

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

Prayer for Illumination

**God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that our hearts and minds may be opened. Amen.**

Second Scripture Reading

Romans 8:18-25

Sermon

“Suffering and God’s Love” Eric Hankins & Caroline Cupp

\*Hymn # 724

O Jesus, I Have Promised

\*Blessing and Response

Postlude

*\*You are invited to stand as you desire.*

**Leading us in worship today** are Rev. Caroline Cupp, Executive Pastor; Eric Hankins, Director of Youth & Contemporary Ministries; Elizabeth Hess, Liturgist; Marci Major, Children’s Choir Director; Tracy Burke, flute; Julie Claeys, piano.

**Greeters:** Charlie and Kathie Myhre at 9:00; Becky Gamble at 10:42

**Coffee Deacons:** Gwyn Heaver and Evelyn Norton



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## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRES WEEK OF June 26, 2022

**Staff Changes** – We are sad to share the news that our Office Administrator, Dan Williams, has moved on from First Pres. Dan was a great colleague and will be missed. His departure will temporarily shift a few things in the office:

*Returning staff:* Claire Kramer will return beginning June 29 on a part-time, interim basis as our Office Administrator. She will be in the office on Wednesdays and Thursdays and handle our day-to-day administration and financial responsibilities alongside Jeff Somers. Claire can be reached at [ckramer@firstpreswc.com](mailto:ckramer@firstpreswc.com). For the moment, if you have a question that would typically have gone to Dan, contact Caroline at 484-459-8220 or through email.

*Summer Office Hours:* For June and July, the front office will be covered by volunteers from 9am – 1pm, Monday through Thursday. Church staff will be on-site in addition to these hours, so if you need to access the building outside of the 9-1 window, please contact Pastor Caroline (484-459-8220) or the staff member with whom you will be working.

**Summer Book Study: Talking About Gun Violence** - The news of tragic mass shootings has rocked many of us in recent weeks. In the face of tragedies, it's common to want to “do” something but often we are at a loss. If you are interested in learning more about gun violence and having a better-quality conversation than news media allows for, please consider participating in First Pres's summer book study of *Common Ground: Talking about Gun Violence in America*. Author Donald V. Gaffney is a Disciples of Christ minister, gun owner, and native of Newtown, CT who writes with a calm, compassionate voice on some of the many questions and issues that are part of gun violence conversations. Critically, he also spends time examining violence in the Bible and some theological issues that might be connected to how we think about this topic. Copies of the book are available for purchase in Fellowship Hall for \$13. We will have a lunch conversation on Sunday, July 17 to talk about the book. There is no agenda with this conversation, which will be enriched if people participate who have different opinions and experiences with guns. The goal is not to come up with a solution or any action plans, but rather to think about this hard thing we are all experiencing through grace-filled conversation. Please contact Sara Pantazes with any questions.

**West Chester Walking Tour** - The Justice Ministry Team is pleased to offer a new learning opportunity to the congregation this summer – a walking tour of West Chester that examines the town's historic African American communities. It will be led by Penny Washington, a native of West Chester and published author. The June tour date is full but there is still room in the second tour group on Saturday, July 9 at 10:00 am. It will last approximately one hour with time for Q&A after the tour. You can register to attend through the Sign-up tab on the church's website; contact Sara Pantazes ([spantazes@firstpreswc.com](mailto:spantazes@firstpreswc.com)) with questions.

**June Food Cupboard Donation** – This month, we are collecting jelly for the West Chester Food Cupboard. Thank you for your generosity toward our neighbors in need.

**Kids Summer Music Camp** – The musical fun will continue this summer with the second annual Summer Music Camp from August 1 – 3. Sessions this year will include percussion, piano and singing along with fun games and snacks. This program is open to children ages 4 years – 5th grade. For families who are able, the registration fee is \$35/child to help cover the cost of the professional musicians we are bringing in to work with the kids. Scholarships are available. Please register your children through the Sign-up tab on the church's webpage. Contact Sandor Kadar ([skadar@firstpreswc.com](mailto:skadar@firstpreswc.com)) with any questions.