

The Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair

Sunday, May 11, 2025

4th Sunday of Easter



10:00 a.m.

*If you are able, please stand.
Please turn off cell phones.

WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

"Intelligence, goodness, humanity, excitement, serenity. Over time, these are the things that change the musculature of your face, as do laughter, and... especially whatever peace you can broker with the person inside. It's furrow, pinch, and judgement that make us look older – our mothers were right. They said that if you made certain faces, they would stick, and they do. But our mothers forgot that faces of kindness and integrity stick as well."

Anne Lamott



Prelude

Brother James' Air

Tune: *Marosa*

Karen Merchant & Anne Marie Juliano, piano

*Call to Worship (based on Proverbs 8)

Tom Johnson

One: Listen! Wisdom is calling!

**All: From the mountaintops,
from the foundations of the deep.**

Listen! Wisdom is calling!

To you, me, every one,

**Giving us peace, grace, love
as the foundation of our lives.**

Listen! Wisdom is calling!

The very Presence of the Living God,

poured into our hearts

that we may become

Christ's hand and heart, love

as the foundation of our lives.

*Opening Hymn 174 *Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom*

Madeleine

Invitation to Worship and Confession

Pastor Greg Horn

At times God invites us into confession and restored relationship from the depths of despair; at others, with a blinding light from the heavens. But often God invites us into relationship in the middle of our workday, our many tasks and distractions. Please join your hearts with mine in prayer:

Prayer of Confession and Preparation for Worship

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.

Prayer Hymn 434 (seated) *Restore in Us, O God*

Baylor

Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

***We Give God Glory** (Hymn #582)

*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

(Please fill out the Friendship Pad completely and pass it along.)

Song of Praise

Jesus Loves Me!
Sunday School Children

William B. Bradbury

Time for Children

(All children are invited forward. Afterward, all children may attend Sunday School.)

The Sacrament of Baptism (insert)

Oliver Thomas Millson
Maeve Elizia Millson

Introduction

The Presentation

Elder Tom Johnson

Questions to the Children's Parents

Questions to the Children's Church Family

The Act of Baptism

***The Church Proclaims What It Believes**

The Apostles' Creed

Welcoming the Newly Baptized

***Baptism Hymn 7** *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth*

Norwich

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading (p.725 of OT)

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-36 (NRSV)

¹ Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice?
² On the heights, beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand;
³ beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries out:
⁴ "To you, O people, I call, and my cry is to all that live.

²² The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago.
²³ Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
²⁴ When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.
²⁵ Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth—
²⁶ when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil.
²⁷ When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
²⁸ when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep,
²⁹ when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
³⁰ then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight,
rejoicing before him always,
³¹ rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

³² "And now, my children, listen to me: happy are those who keep my ways.
³³ Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it.
³⁴ Happy is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.
³⁵ For whoever finds me finds life and obtains favor from the Lord;
³⁶ but those who miss me injure themselves; all who hate me love death."

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading (p.156 of NT)

Acts 9:36-43 (NRSV)

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"She's Good Value"

Pastor Greg Horn

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn 710**

We Lift Our Voices (We Are an Offering)

Dwight Liles

We Worship With Our Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

John Rutter

Chancel Choir

The Lord bless you and keep you:

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you:

*The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you
and give you peace. Amen.*

***We Give Praise to God** (Hymn #606)

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.***

Prayer of the People

***Closing Hymn 14**

For the Beauty of the Earth

Dix

(verses 1, 2, 4, 5)

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

GO WITH GOD – TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

*The chancel flowers this morning are given by the Valle family
in honor of all the wonderful mothers, grandmothers, aunts,
and maternal figures in our lives.*

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. After worship, you are invited for refreshments and conversation in Fellowship Hall.

PLEASE ASK AN USHER for anything you might need, and please help fellow worshipers by exiting and entering the sanctuary at times other than during prayers or scripture readings.

CHILDCARE for toddlers and a nursery for younger children are always available during worship in the North Wing, located off Fellowship Hall. Please ask an usher for directions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES for all children preschool through 7th grade are located in the North Wing. Ask the ushers for directions. Parents of kids participating in Sunday School for the first time: please step out briefly with your child(ren) as they are dismissed to register them and complete an emergency contact form.



RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM this morning are Oliver Thomas Millson and Maeve Elizia Millson, children of Tricia and John (Jack) Millson. Presenting Maeve and Oliver for baptism on behalf of the PCUM Session (elected board) is Elder Tom Johnson. Representing Oliver and Maeve's church family and their circle of loved ones committing themselves to their support and nurture in life and faith are Heather Lyons, Henry Millson, Hannah Millson, Helen Millson, and Laura Kost.

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 love for us 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.



YOUTH BANQUET FOR RISING 5TH-8TH GRADERS HEADS TO THE TROPICS!

On Wednesday, May 21st, from 7-8:30 pm, all rising 6th through 8th graders are invited to PCUM'S *Surf's Up, Bro* annual Youth Banquet! Join friends for tropical-themed food, games and fun—and to welcome the incoming 6th graders who will be joining Youth Group in the fall. High School volunteers are needed to help out with this event. Food donations are appreciated! To help, or if you have not received an email with the sign-up form attached, please email Sierra (sierra@pcum.org) or Garrett (garrett@pcum.org) for the link. Surf's up!!!!

SIGN UP TO HELP PREPARE & SERVE COFFEE HOUR – Hospitality is a priority of this church family. Sign up to help on the Coffee Hour Calendar in the Deacons' Corner or online at www.pcum.org.

VOLUNTEER TO SERVE HUNGRY NEIGHBORS – Join fellow volunteers serving hungry neighbors for an experience that feeds everyone! PCUM prepares and serves an evening meal in Montclair every 4th Saturday of the month and lunch in Newark the 3rd Saturday. *Sign up at* pcum.org/serve-others.

DEDICATE FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP – You can honor loved ones by dedicating flowers for any Sunday morning worship service. The suggested donation for two standard bouquets is \$80. Sign up on the Flower Calendar in the Deacons' Corner or online at www.pcum.org.



Thoughtful, Nourishing Worship ✝ *Vibrant Ministry to Children & Youth*

Relationships ✝ *Participation* ✝ *Service to Others and to the World* ✝ *Relevance and Authenticity*

The Presbyterian Church
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Pastor & Head of Staff:

The Rev. Gregory A. Horn

Director of Music Ministries:

Anne Marie Juliano

Director of Christian Education: Millie Tourtelot

Co-Youth Leader: Garrett Pahl

Children's Programs/Co-Youth Leader: Sierra Joy

Church Administrator: Denise Silecchia

Livestream Techs: Tres Williams, Jerome Nelson

Custodian: Jimmy Abad

The Sacrament of Baptism of

Oliver Thomas Millson

Maeve Elizia Millson

Questions to the Children's Parents

Do you intend your child(ren) 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 children that they may grow
and live all their days in the presence of the living God?

Questions to the Children's Church Family

Elder Tom Johnson

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

We do.

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

We do.

The Act of Baptism

*The Church Proclaims What It Believes

The Apostles' 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.*

Welcoming the Newly Baptized

*Baptism Hymn 7

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

Norwich