

The Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair

Sunday, June 22, 2025
2nd Sunday after Pentecost



10:00 a.m.

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

WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

"We present the Christian faith as... an attainment of [those] struggling to get right with God. This all sounds reasonable in our self-help, achievement-oriented society. But it does not sound like Good News. The Good News says we do not need to 'get right with God.' The Gospel says we *already are* right with God... not because we are basically good people, and not even because... we start living right, and thereby [make] ourselves good. We are who we are by *God's* grace. God's *grace*."

Will Willimon, *Remember Who You Are*

† † † † †

Prelude

Dreamland
Anne Marie Juliano, piano

Alexis Ffrench

Introit

I Was Glad
Chancel Choir

Craig Curry

*Call to Worship (based on Psalm 42)

Laurie Kroll

One: As a deer longs for flowing streams, our souls long for you, O God.

All: Our souls thirst for God, for the living God.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

**Our hope is in God, because God has been our strength and help,
and we shall again praise the Lord.**

Let us lift our spirits to meet the Spirit that seeks to be with us here today.

Let us worship the Living God together!

*Opening Hymn 620 *Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven*

Lauda Anima

Prayer of Confession & Preparation for Worship (unison) Pastor Greg Horn

**God of gospel freedom, we find it difficult to imagine that we could
indeed be your children simply by trusting you above all else.**

**We cannot believe that we don't have to be worthy, or pretend
to be worthy. We cannot believe that we could belong to Christ and
be heirs of the promise made to Abraham and his offspring.**

Help our unbelief; rekindle our imagination. Tame our rebellion.

**Help us in this time together to look in the mirror and see what
you see; then bring us back to ourselves—and to you.**

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** (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.)

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Song

Hymn of Promise
Sunday School Children

Natalie Sleeth

*In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery.
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

Time for Children

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

Scripture Reading (p.230 of NT)

Galatians 3:23-29 (NRSV)

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading (p.82 of NT)

Luke 8:26-39 (NRSV)

²⁶ Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me'— ²⁹ for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.)

³⁰Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.³² Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Let Your Hair Down"

Pastor Greg Horn

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn 760**

Bring Many Names

Westchase

We Worship With Our Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Solo

Remind Who I Am

Jason Gray

Will Horn

***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 15** *All Creatures of Our God and King*

Lasst uns erfreuen

***Charge and Benediction**

***Choral Response** *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

John Rutter

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. 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.



(BRIEF) CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY FOLLOWING BENEDICTION in the sanctuary: Today right after the worship service, all PCUM members are encouraged to attend the brief-but-important special meeting of the congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair—to be held in the sanctuary. The meeting should last approximately 5 minutes. The purpose of the meeting will be to act on the Nominating Committee's nomination of two PCUM members to be elected as Ruling Elders to fill two vacancies—one for the Class of 2026 and one for the class of 2027--on the current Session (elected board of elders), as well as to act on the nomination of one member to serve as Auditor, Class of 2028. As always in our Presbyterian and Reformed Protestant tradition, nominations from the floor will be in order. As this will be a special meeting of the congregation, only the items of the congregation's life and ministry stated in the purpose of the meeting will be addressed. Thank you!

SIGN UP TO HELP PREPARE & SERVE COFFEE HOUR – PCUM's Coffee Hour is a treasured tradition, and YOU can help your church extend hospitality on Sundays! 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 in 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.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sundays during the summer, PCUM's children start their church-day in the sanctuary with their church family; then after the Children's Time, kids gather in the North Wing for music and story time. From there, they'll visit PCUM's *Simple Gifts Children's Garden*, where each Sunday they'll experience and learn about God's love for them and all of creation and our calling to help others. Vegetables grown by PCUM's children throughout the summer will be donated to help families served by Montclair's Human Needs Food Pantry. Kids of all ages—and especially children new to PCUM—are invited to participate in this fun, hands-on program! [Parents of kids 3 and under—please accompany your children.]

BREEZE IS HERE! A new communication, information, and giving tool is now available to all members and friends of the PCUM family! Sign up for activities, get the latest updates on church happenings, track and update your church giving, send and receive text and emails to church friends and groups, view the church directory for photos, and more! It's all in *Breeze*! Everyone in the PCUM family should have received an email invitation to create your own Breeze account, which gives you access to your profile information and giving/pledge information, so **it's important and advantageous for you and everyone at PCUM to create a unique Breeze account**. If you did not receive or can't locate your Breeze invitation, please contact Denise in the Church Office at denise@pcum.org. **Thank you** for taking this important step!

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