

The Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair

Sunday, July 6, 2025

4th Sunday after Pentecost



10:00 a.m.

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

WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

"I've wondered why it took us so long to catch on. We saw it, and yet we didn't see it. Or rather we were trained not to see it. Conned perhaps... The truth knocks on the door and you say, 'Go away. I'm looking for the truth.' And so it goes away. Puzzling."

Robert M. Pirsig



Prelude

America the Beautiful
Anne Marie Juliano, piano

arr. John Carter

*Call to Worship (based on Psalm 66:1-5)

Andrew Kennedy

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth!

All: Sing God's glorious name; shout out glorious praise.

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

All the earth worships you; they sing praises to your name."

Come and see what God has done:

Tell of God's awesome deeds among all people!

*Opening Hymn 611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Hymn to Joy

Invitation to Confession and Worship

We cannot be perfect, but we can be faithful by paying attention to where we have persisted in our emptiness and asking God to fill us. Let us therefore confess our brokenness before God and each other.

Prayer of Confession & Preparation for Worship (unison)

Patient God, you call and call, and we come up with every excuse why we can't answer, at least not right now. Forgive our fear.

Remind us that when we trust you enough to answer your call, we will not be sent out alone, but filled with your gifts, surrounded by your children, and held in your love. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Rock and Redeemer.

our silent prayers of preparation and confession

Prayer Hymn 811 (seated) *Make Your Face to Shine*

Gláucia

Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

One: Hear the good news! God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

***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

Pastor Greg Horn

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

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Time for Children

Sierra Joy, Children's Program Leader,

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

Co-Youth Director

Scripture Reading (p.416 of OT)

II Kings 5:1-8 (NRSV)

¹Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. ²Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." ⁴So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. ⁵And the king of Aram said, "Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel." He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. ⁶He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy." ⁷When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me." ⁸But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel."

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading (p.417 of OT)

II Kings 5:9-14 (NRSV)

⁹So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." ¹¹But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! ¹²Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean?'" ¹⁴So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Give Me the Best, Or Give Me Nothing"

Pastor Greg Horn

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

We Worship With Our Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Solo

If I Can Help Somebody

Alma Androzso

Ravon Middlebrooks

*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.*

*Communion Hymn 522 *I Am the Bread of Life*

Suzanne Toolan

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

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.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

*Closing Hymn 307 *God of Grace and God of Glory* (verses 1, 3, 4)

CWM Rhondda

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

GO WITH GOD – TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

*The flowers decorating the chancel this morning
are given by Pam Bonelli in celebration of family
and in loving memory of Josephine B. Teaze.*

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.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL – 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 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 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.]

YOU ARE WELCOME AT THE LORD’S TABLE TODAY – In the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Lord’s Supper is the sign and seal of God’s grace in the body and blood of Jesus Christ. The Spirit draws us to the Lord’s Table, trusting that God’s love brings us into Christ’s Presence, nourishes us in hope, and sends us out to share in God’s work in the world. All who come seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor are welcome. Because experiencing the mystery and love of Christ’s real spiritual Presence in Communion is not something earned or accomplished, children who are being instructed in the significance of the Lord’s Supper at their level of understanding are invited to take their place at the table to receive Communion.

SUPPORT THE DEACONS’ MINISTRY THE 1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH! On the 1st Sunday of each month, the PCUM family uses the green envelopes in your pew rack to support the Deacons’ ministries of compassion, care, and community-building. You can also give through Zelle (treasurer@pcum.org) on the PCUM website (www.pcum.org) or mail your check to the church. Please *always* indicate “Deacons Fund.”

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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.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR BREEZE! A new communication, information, and giving tool is now available to all members and friends of the PCUM family!—and you can help the Church Office by accepting the personalized signup link sent to you via email and signing up. 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