

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 16, 2009 – 11:00 AM

GATHERING AND GREETING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *Andante from 'The Four Seasons'* Lucie Novoveska, Violin

A. Vivaldi

***Call to Worship**

The Spirit of God invites us to worship.

In God's Spirit, we rejoice and give thanks.

The glory of God calls us to praise.

In God's glory, we meet the mysteries of the Holy.

The wisdom of God summons us to live with thanksgiving and truth.

In God's wisdom, we find grace for living our lives.

The love of God invites us to service.

In God's love we are filled with strength and peace.

The peace of God calls us into abundant life.

**Let us turn our hearts and minds to worship,
and to living always as God's beloved ones.**

***Opening Prayer**

God of all glory, on this first day you began creation, bringing light out of darkness.
On this first day you began your new creation, raising Jesus Christ out of the darkness of death. On this Lord's Day grant that we, the people you create by water and the Spirit, may be joined with all your works in praising you for your great glory. Through Jesus Christ, in union with the Holy Spirit, we praise you now and forever. **Amen.**

***Hymn of Praise # 281**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

Call to Confession (*Rom. 5:8; Heb. 4:16*)

The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves, and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through Jesus Christ our Savior...*(silent prayer)* Amen.

Sung Response # 301

Lord Jesus, Think of Me

SOUTHWELL

Assurance of Pardon (*From 1 Timothy 1:15; 1 Peter 2:24*)

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **Amen.**

***Gloria Patri # 579**

Glory Be to the Father

H. W. Greatorex

Special Music

Meditation from the Opera 'Thais' Lucie Novoveska, Violin

J. Massenet

THE WORD

Old Testament Lesson: 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14

Responsive Reading of Psalm 111

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the deeds of the LORD! They are studied by all who delight in them.

Full of majesty and splendor is the work of the LORD, whose righteousness endures forever.

**Gracious and full of compassion is the LORD,
whose marvelous works are to be remembered.**

The LORD gives food to the God-fearing, ever mindful of the covenant.

**The LORD has shown the chosen people works of power
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

The hands of the LORD work faithfulness and justice;
the commandments of the LORD are sure.

They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.

The LORD sent redemption to the chosen people, commanding the covenant forever;
holy and awesome is the name of the LORD.

**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; those who act accordingly
have a good understanding; the praise of the LORD endures forever.**

Faithful God, you have nourished us in your holy covenant with the food and drink of Christ's love. Keep us firm in our faith and loyal in our love, that we may obediently serve as disciples of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Amen.

Epistle Lesson: Ephesians 5:15-20

Sermon

“God Given Wisdom”

The Reverend Pat Harvey

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith (Insert)** A Brief Statement of Faith – Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Commissioning of Stephen Ministry Leader

***Hymn of Response # 275** *God of Our Life* SANDON

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Introduction to Offering (*2 Corinthians. 9:7*)

Give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver.

Offertory *Prelude in F Sharp* J. S. Bach

***Doxology**

***Dedication of Tithes and Offerings**

THE SENDING FORTH

***Hymn of Blessing # 344** *Christ of the Upward Way* *SURSUM CORDA*

***Charge & Benediction**

***Congregational Response # 438** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* SALVATION

Blest be the tie that binds Our Hearts in Christian Love:
The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.

***Postlude** *For the Beauty of the Earth* arr. Purifoy

***Please stand if you are able**

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Liturgist: Liz Singley Acolytes: Charlie Coen and Henry Coen
Sound: Greg Murr Ushers: Helen and Dave Stevenson

BETHEL STAFF

Rev. S. Marc Sherrod Th.D – Pastor	Rev. Richard Hettrick – Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Patricia Harvey – Parish Associate	Deb Hyder – Parish Nurse
Susan Cutts – Administrative Assistant	Mary Hook – Pianist and Organist
Laura Walker – Choir Director	Chris Badger – Bell Choir Director
John Carter – Custodian	Linda Gerth – Child-care
Cathy McDowell – Clerk of Session	

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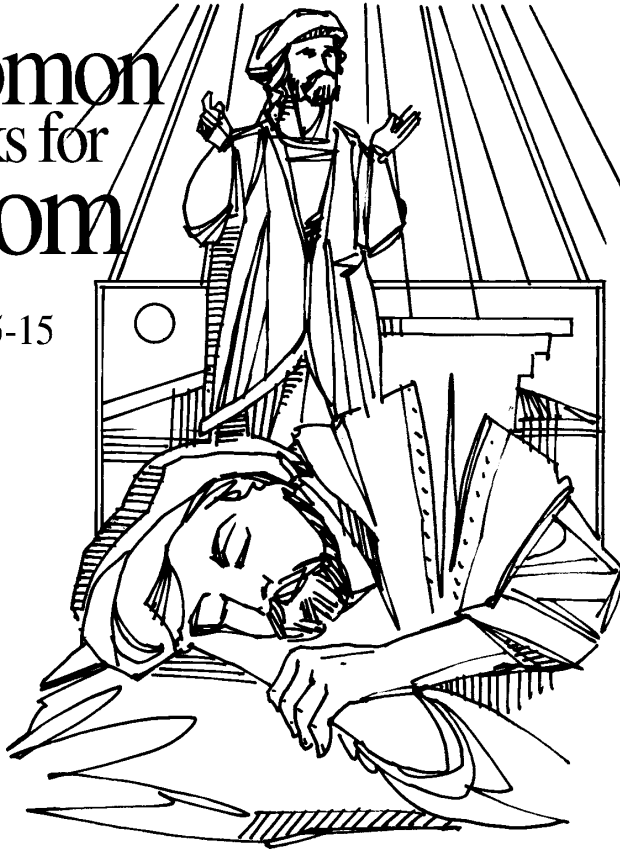
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Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

~ a community of faith coming together,
for fellowship, study and service . . .
seeking God's peace, justice and love ~

Solomon Asks for Wisdom

1 Kings 3:5-15



A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS:

We extend a warm welcome from Bethel Presbyterian Church!
We invite you to participate in signing the Friendship Folders adding your name
and address and if you desire a church newsletter or a pastoral call.

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we say "sins...sin against us"
rather than "debts..." or "trespasses..."

Prayer requests can be noted on the cards provided in the pew racks,
please put those in the offering plate.