



The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell
326 Bloomfield Avenue
Caldwell, NJ 07006
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November 15, 2020

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

REFLECTION

“God's mercy never ends’ is a way of saying grace has capital, love is rich. We need to encourage people to stop putting God under the mattress. As we begin to trust allowing God to move through us, our lives change as individuals and our communities have a better chance of change. There are rich pickings, so to speak, and the harvest is ripe.” -William Loader

PRELUDE

“Abbot’s Leigh”

arr. Austin C. Lovelace

WORDS OF WELCOME & PRESENTATION FROM ADULT EDUCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

OPENING HYMN No. 298, St. 1,4,5

“Lord, You Give the Great Commission”

ABBOT’S LEIGH

Lord, You give the great commission:
Heal the sick and preach the Word.
Lest the Church neglect its mission,
And the Gospel go unheard,
Help us witness to your purpose
With renewed integrity,
With the Spirit’s gifts empower us
For the work of ministry.

Lord, you show us love’s true measure:
“Father, what they do, forgive.”
Yet we hoard as private treasure
All that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us
To a just society.
With the Spirit’s gifts empower us
For the work of ministry.

Lord, you bless with words assuring:
I am with you to the end.
Faith and hope and love restoring,
May we serve as you intend
And, amid the cares that claim us,
Hold in mind eternity.
With the Spirit’s gifts empower us
For the work of ministry.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(In Unison)*

Again, we must confess, Master of the Universe, our struggles to be faithful disciples. Entrusted with all your gifts, we become fearful once again of misusing them, missing the chance to be a blessing to others. Invited to dance in the light of your love, we stand against the wall once again, keeping company with our old friend, sin. Called to be emptied for those who struggle in life, we fill ourselves once again, with scorn for the poor choices they make. Have mercy, Journeying God, have mercy on us. Once again, open our eyes to your kingdom in our midst, so we might discover that your day of hope and grace has already come in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

This is the good news: God intends for us to find life, to embrace hope, to receive forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Servant.

The end of our journey is not rejection and emptiness, but the fullness of grace and hope in our God. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

HYMN No. 582

“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

GLORY TO GOD

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.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Deacon Turkey Drive

HYMN No. 175, No. 1 & 3

“Seek Ye First”

LAFFERTY

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God.
Alleu, alleluia!

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Jonah 2

GOSPEL READING

Luke 19:11-26

SERMON

“Creating Value Out of Value”

Rev. William Schram

SPECIAL MUSIC *“He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”* arr. Hal H. Hopson

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.

HYMN No. 409, St. 4 *“God Is Here!”* ABBOT’S LEIGH

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt
Keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work our purpose out.
Here, in this day’s dedication, all we have to give, receive:
We who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *“Pasticcio”* Jean Langlais (1907 – 1991)

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram
Rev. Barbara Piercy
Noel Piercy
Paul Salierno, Soloist & Cantor
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers