



# First Presbyterian Church

## OF LAKE FOREST

May 16, 2021

Eastertide

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

#### *TREES*

I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest  
Against the sweet earth's flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear  
A nest of robins in her hair,

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;  
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,  
But only God can make a tree.

Joyce Kilmer\*\*  
(1886-1918)

### PRELUDE

**Rondeau No. 3 and Trumpet Tune for a Festive Day**

David Lasky, 1993

### THE WELCOME

\*\*Kilmer's poetry was influenced by "his strong religious faith and dedication to the natural beauty of the world." Unfortunately, his life was cut short when he was killed fighting in World War I at the age of 32.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Matt Maher; Revelation 22

Leader: Then he showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

**People: Beside the river is the tree of life....And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.**

Leader: Let them come to the water.

**People: Let all who are laden-let them come to the Lord.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE, No. 35**

**Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty**

Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;  
Praise Him in glad adoration.*

*Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been  
granted in what he ordaineth?*

*Praise to the Lord, oh, let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him;  
Let the amen sound from his people again,  
gladly for aye we adore him.*

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God,**

**In baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us captive. In your loving kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Fulfill the promises of our baptism so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace. Amen.**

\*Please stand if you are able.

**\*SUNG INVOCATION, No. 288**

**Spirit of the Living God**

Tune: LIVING GOD

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

*Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.*

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Matthew 3:17

Leader: As a voice from heaven said to Jesus, so, in Christ, God speaks to us: You are my child,  
my beloved; with you I am well pleased.

Leader: In the name of Jesus, our sins are forgiven.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**\*SUNG RESPONSE, No. 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me** TUNE: 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.*

**\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And with your spirit.**

**\*THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts

*Receiving the sacrament of baptism are **Benjamin Edwin Gros Naccarato** and  
**Nathaniel John Gros Naccarato**, children of David and Emily (Gros) Naccarato.*

Congregational Question

Leader: Friends, do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture  
these children by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging them to know and  
follow Jesus, and to be a faithful member of his church?

**Congregation: We do.**

\*Please stand if you are able.

The Baptism

The Welcome

**People: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome Benjamin and Nathaniel into Christ's church.  
We are all members of the household of God and family through Jesus Christ.**

**\*SUNG RESPONSE**

**Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord Most Dear**

TUNE: VOM HIMMEL HOCH

*Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord most dear, as you were once an infant here,  
so give this child of Yours, we pray, Your grace and blessing day by day.*

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Saving God, source of our calling, your Word is full of power and glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so that we may receive your grace and live as your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

Psalm 1:1-3

Happy are those  
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,  
or take the path that sinners tread,  
or sit in the seat of scoffers;  
but their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and on his law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees  
planted by streams of water,  
which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

\*Please stand if you are able.

## **SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

Ephesians 3:14-20

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to Christ.**

## **SERMON**

**“Rooted Beside Clear Waters”**

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts

## **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

### **PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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.**

## **OFFERING**

Choral Scholars

**\*DOXOLOGY**

TUNE: OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.*

*Praise God all creatures here below.*

*Praise God above, ye heavenly host;*

*praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

**\*CLOSING PRAYER**

**\*HYMN OF SENDING, No. 547      Go, My Children, with My Blessing**

TUNE: AR HYD Y NOS

*“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.*

*Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.*

*In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever.*

*Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”*

*“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.*

*Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.*

*Here you heard my dear Son’s story;*

*here you touched him, saw his glory.*

*Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”*

*“Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.*

*Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.*

*Here my Spirit’s power filled you;*

*here my tender comfort stilled you.*

*Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**Festival Flourish on Old Hundredth**

arr. Walter L. Pelz, 1989

## **Chancel Flowers**

*To honor the life of Laura L. Sibley on the third anniversary of her reunion with our Lord.*

*–The Sibley Family*

Auction items are now LIVE on  
FPCLE.GIVESMART.COM

2021  
*All Church Auction*  
*for Mission*

Friday, May 21 7:00 – 8:00 PM on Zoom

### **Worship Participants**

**Rev. Clinton Roberts, Senior Pastor**

**Rev. Kristie Finley, Associate Pastor**

**Jim Cochrane, Director of Youth Ministries**

**Sarah Seccombe, Director of Children's Ministries**

**Dr. Tom Tropp, Director of Music and Arts**

**Dr. Barry Wenger, Director of Bell Choirs and Organist**

**Susan Noble, Director of Children's Music**

**Koen Brown, Trumpet**

**Choral Scholars**

**AV Support: Will & Peter Elliott**



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