



Sunday Worship
October 31, 2021
Draw near to God
for God is waiting for you.

* indicates where the congregation is to stand if able
italic type is spoken by the liturgist – **bold is spoken by the congregation**

PRELUDE

**CALL TO WORSHIP*

We belong to God.

P: God's stamp is on our lives.

L: God's love and compassion is built into us.

P: God's mercy and hope flow through us.

L: Let's celebrate the powerful presence of God.

P: Let's rejoice in all the opportunities God gives us to serve.

**OPENING PRAYER*

Most wonderful God, we approach you with our small lives, our tiny minds and our large ignorance, but also with our purest longings and hopes. We want to worship you with all that we have and are, but unless you encourage and assist us, we will fail in this our holiest intention. Therefore please let your Spirit move in our hearts and minds, lifting us above things of secondary importance, and concentrating our whole being on your love and graciousness. Through Christ Jesus who is the source of our confidence and the joy of our hearts desiring. Amen.

**HYMN #25 O Lord, Our God, How Excellent*

1. O Lord, our God, how excellent, how glorious is your name.
Your majesty surrounds the earth, and children sing your fame.

2. The heavens shout your handiwork; we stand beneath in awe,
to think the one who made all things should care for us at all.

3. Yet you have made us less than gods, surpassing all but you,
with heart and mind, with strength and will, to search for what is true.

4. Into our hands you've placed all things: the earth, the sea; each place
we're called to prove for secret gifts and venture into space.

5. O Lord, our God, how excellent, how glorious is your name,
majestic in your holiness. We sing and praise your fame.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Tender and merciful God, you hear the cry of all your children, and your heart aches for the suffering of this world. Forgive us for every way we have failed to share the abundance of your creation. Forgive us for hoarding out of fear of the future rather than trusting in your goodness in every age. Forgive us for living lives of excess rather than lives of abundance: abundant hope, abundant generosity, abundant love. Your mercy can heal us for every broken place in our lives, and so we ask to be transformed more deeply,

each day, by the power of your forgiveness, into people who walk trustingly in your care. Open our hearts and minds, we pray, and help us to share your love. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

... Remember the good news and say it aloud: **Jesus died for me. Jesus forgives me. Jesus loves me. Jesus is good to me. Amen.**

**GLORIA PATRI*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON A poem by Fay Kranz Greene based on the book of Esther

**HYMN #307* God of Grace and God of Glory (*Children will leave for Sunday School during this hymn*)

1. God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;

crown thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

2. Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!

From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

3. Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;

shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4. Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore. Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

SERMON For Such a Time as This

SONG This Little Light of Mine

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

2. Hide it under a bushel – NO! I'm gonna let it shine.

3. Shine all over the neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine.

4. Let it shine 'til Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine.

RECOGNITION OF THE OFFERING

**DOXOLOGY*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION*

Lord, receive our gifts and our lives. Cause all of these blessings to work for you in this world which you have loaned to us for safekeeping. In Christ's Name, we pray. Amen.

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who is 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 #700 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1. I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! (repeat)
2. I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! (repeat)
3. I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! (repeat)
4. I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! (repeat)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Church Staff

Susan Fall, Pastor Leanne Yerkes, Director of Music
Susan Flanagan, Office Administrator Jason Gordon, Youth Director
Mary Ann Welsh, Treasurer Chris Miterko, Grounds Keeper

ANNOUNCEMENTS: October 31, 2021

****TODAY:** 3:00PM TRUNK-OR-TREAT – CHURCH PARKING LOT. IN ADDITION TO TREATS, THERE WILL ALSO BE ACTIVITIES AND TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF. **HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**

NEXT SUNDAY WORSHIP IS AT 9:30 BECAUSE OF THE CHURCH HAS LEFT THE BUILDING

NEXT SUNDAY - The Church has Left the building: **NOVEMBER 7:** We begin with a brief worship service at 9:30 and then leave to engage in various mission projects. These include making soup for Aid for Friends, making blankets for Synergy Project, making Sandwiches and packing lunches for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, yard work for seniors and a special painting project for Allies, Inc. How will you help?

Youth Group: Sunday – November 7th at 9:30am. **Church Has Left The Building.** We will gather together for worship and then head out into our community. Bring your own rake!

Wednesday noontime: This Wednesday November 3, 2021. Bring your lunch and join us for some mid-week time together. All are welcome!!

Thursday Night Bible Study and Fellowship to resume: November 3 at 7:00pm all are invited to join on Zoom as we continue to discuss the Psalms <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/127591875>

Scout Troop 71 Greenery Fundraiser: Once again our Scout troop is selling beautiful holiday wreaths, swags, and centerpieces. **Orders must be placed by November 7.** Help support our Boy Scouts by going to: <https://sherwoodfundraiser.com/bsatrop71/products> or contact Nathan or Sam Holton.

Poinsettias for the Christmas Season: Order forms can be found on the table as you're departing today. Thank you for helping decorate our sanctuary with Poinsettias.

Calendar: November 3 – 12noon – join us for lunch. 7pm Christian Ed. mtg.
November 4 - 7pm Bible Study Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/127591875>
November 7 – 9:30am- Sunday services in church and on Zoom followed by
The Church Has Left the Building mission projects. No Sunday school today.

In our thoughts and prayers:

The Conner/Lang Family, Aleena Lang, Natalie Pizza, Bill Wark, Raymond Tinari, Dick Wright, John Thiessen, Rebecca Stemplewicz, Rick Wiggins, Becky Schroeder, Linda Bowers