



Sunday, September 6, 2020

***Presbytery of New Castle
Service of Worship***

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PRELUDE *“Great is Thy Faithfulness”* The Rev. Kevin Benjamin

GREETINGS and WELCOME The Rev. Dr. Tracy Keenan and the Rev. Sara Holben

CALL TO WORSHIP Ruling Elder Bob Schminkey

With believers and seekers the whole world wide,
with people in every land,
and speakers of every language,

we gather in praise of God.

With Jesus who promised his presence
and the Spirit who showers her blessings,

we gather in praise of God.

Here let heaven and earth embrace;
here may God’s people find home.

GATHERING PRAYER

O Living God of past and future,
we praise you for this present moment.

Fill us with your joy and empower us with your Holy Spirit,
that our strength may be renewed to sing a new song of your glory
in a world which longs for your justice and peace.

All this we ask in the name of Jesus, in whom we become your new creation. Amen.

OPENING HYMN *“Shall We Gather at the River”* (verses 1, 3 & 4)

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Merciful God, for the things we have done that we regret, and
for the things we have failed to do,

forgive us;

for all the times we have acted without love
and reacted without thought,

forgive us;

for all the times we have failed to forgive;
for hurtful words said and helpful words unsaid,
for unfinished tasks and unfulfilled hopes,

God of all time, forgive us.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news!

Hope does not disappoint us,
for God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism.

Believe this good news and give thanks:

in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Since God has forgiven us in Christ,
let us share signs of reconciliation and peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

SCRIPTURE READING Revelation 1-3, selected verses

SERMON *"A Word to Your Angel"* The Rev. Dr. Tracy Keenan

MUSIC *"Amazing Grace"* The Rev. Kevin Benjamin

INVITATION to the TABLE The Rev. Dr. Hilary Livingston and the Rev. Sara Holben

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING and the LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you, **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever, as we pray as Jesus taught us:

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

COMMUNION

OFFERING INVITATION Please support your own congregation through your financial gifts.

CLOSING HYMN *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"* (vs 1, 2 & 4)

CHARGE and BENEDICTION

MUSIC *"Amazing Grace"* The Rev. Kevin Benjamin

PARTICIPANTS in TODAY'S WORSHIP

- The Rev. Kevin Benjamin – *Pastor, St. Paul United Methodist Church, Odessa DE*
- The Rev. Tracy Keenan – *Missional Presbyter, New Castle Presbytery*
- The Rev. Sara Holben – *Co-Interim Connectional Presbyter, New Castle Presbytery*
- Ruling Elder Bob Schminkey – *Co-Interim Connectional Presbyter, New Castle Presbytery*
- The Rev. Hilary Livingston – *Pastor, Head of Christiana Presbyterian Church, Newark DE*

Many Thanks to the Technology Team who helped make today's service possible:

- Norma Bostick – *Limestone Presbyterian Church, Newark DE*
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- Tim Jooste – *Limestone Presbyterian Church, Newark DE*



MUSIC: *All music is in the public domain, therefore no license is required.*



Liturgy:

- Call to Worship – *Iona Abbey Worship Book* © 2016 The Iona Community
- Gathering Prayer - from *All Things New*, written by Rev. Susan A. Blain and Rev. Scott Ressman. Posted on the **United Church of Christ website**
<http://www.ucc.org/50/pdfs/worship-resources.pdf>
- Prayer of Confession – adapted from *The Pattern of Our Days: Worship in the Celtic Tradition from the Iona Community*. Edited by Kathy Galloway ©1996 by the Authors
- Offering Prayer of Dedication – *Book of Common Worship* ©2018 Westminster John Knox Press
- Communion Invitation and Prayer of Thanksgiving – adapted from *Iona Abbey Worship Book* © 2016 The Iona Community and *Book of Common Worship* ©2018 Westminster John Knox Press