

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

October 24, 2021
22nd Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

I never teach my pupils; I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn. ~Albert Einstein

I am not a teacher, but an awakener. ~Robert Frost

PRELUDE *Air from Water Music* George Frederic Handel (1685-1759)

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come into this sacred space to worship God

All: whose teaching is perfect; whose directions are sure.

One: Come into this holy place to worship God

All: whose standards are right; whose commandment is clear; whose judgements are true.

One: Come with holy fear – to be given life, and made wise, to have your heart stirred and your eyes opened wide. Come — let us worship God.

All: We welcome the wisdom of the living God; may we be changed by God's teaching and bring that teaching to the world!

OPENING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 3:1-12

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Gracious God, you give us the gift of faith, and then call us to follow you, to obey your word, to love your people. You invite us to learn from you and then to teach what we have learned. We confess that we often regard faith with indifference.

We fail to apply ourselves to learning its scope, and we feel smug about what we do know. We are reluctant teachers, mediocre mentors, indifferent disciples.

Turn us toward wisdom, accepting its humility. Give us hearts eager to know you, to love you, and to share our knowledge with others. In Jesus' name we pray.

(A time of silent confession)

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven and we have been made right with God. Go, therefore, with the Holy Spirit, and sin no more.

All: Alleluia! Our sins are forgiven! We seek to live righteously in all things, guided by God's wisdom and empowered by Christ's love.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Hear the teaching of Christ: A new command I give you, that you love one another as I have loved you. The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you!

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

(As we pass the peace, let us not shake hands, but instead use other peaceful gestures.)

HEARING THE WORD

ANTHEM *Arioso from Cantata BWV 156* Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SCRIPTURE: John 8:1-11

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Spiritual Gifts: Are You A Teacher?" Pastor Abbie Huff

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Con Te Partiro

Francesco Sartori (1957)
Lucio Quarantotto (1957-2012)

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Wachet auf ('Sleepers Awake'), ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 140* J. S. Bach

Our guest musicians today are:

Carole Tilson graduated from New England Conservatory, where she studied with Lawrence Lesser. She studied with Stephen Kates at the Peabody Conservatory, and during the summers was a student at Tanglewood and Aspen music festivals. She was a member of the Orquesta Sinfonica de Veracruz in Veracruz, Mexico. Carole has played with orchestral groups including the Brooklyn Philharmonic, Hudson Valley Philharmonic, Municipal Concerts Orchestra, the New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players and Queens Oratorio Society Chamber Orchestra. In addition to playing with the Wilderness Quartet, she is also a member of the Norwood Trio.

Steven Miller is a graduate of Manhattan School of Music and The Juilliard School, where he studied with Charles Russo and Joseph Allard. He has performed with the New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players, Philharmonia Virtuosi of NY, Group for Contemporary Music, the Westchester Symphony, a national tour of Jesus Christ Superstar, and has performed at Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, and the Kennedy Center. After teaching instrumental music in the North Rockland Central School District for 29 years, he recently retired as the band director from Fieldstone Middle School. He currently performs with the Adelphi Symphony and is a founding member of the Norwood Trio.