

... one's life does not consist
in the abundance of possessions.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEWTON

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 AM JULY 31, 2022

**Whether we worship in person or online,
may the Spirit of God unite us
in praise and prayer,
worship and witness to the saving love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

** indicates when to rise in body or in spirit*

**(PH denotes *The Presbyterian Hymnal*,
STF denotes *Sing the Faith Hymnal*)**

Gathering in God's Name

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Christ calls us to clothe ourselves in righteousness.

People: **Worship the One who wraps us with justice,
and helps us grow in the image of our Creator.**

Leader: Love well, for your heart is where your treasure is.

People: **May our hearts be filled with God's blessings,
divine provisions that meet our true needs.**

“Be Thou My Vision”

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure Thou art.*

*Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. (our silent prayers continue...)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
 I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

People: Thanks be to God!

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

In Christ, God has broken down the dividing walls between us and has bridged whatever distance separates us from God and one another.
May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you. (Please take a moment to greet one another
from a distance.)

Listening For God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 49:1-12

Leader: ¹Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all inhabitants of the world,

People: ²**both low and high, rich and poor together.**

Leader: ³My mouth shall speak wisdom;
the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

People: ⁴**I will incline my ear to a proverb;
I will solve my riddle to the music of the harp.**

Leader: ⁵Why should I fear in times of trouble,
when the iniquity of my persecutors surrounds me,

People: ⁶**those who trust in their wealth and boast of the
abundance of their riches?**

Leader: ⁷Truly, no ransom avails for one's life,
there is no price one can give to God for it.

People: ⁸For the ransom of life is costly, and can never suffice

Leader: ⁹that one should live on forever and never see the grave.

**People: ¹⁰When we look at the wise, they die;
fool and dolt perish together and leave their wealth to others.**

Leader: ¹¹Their graves are their homes forever,
their dwelling places to all generations,
though they named lands their own.

**All: ¹²Mortals cannot abide in their pomp;
they are like the animals that perish.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 12:13-21

¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"What do you treasure?"

Responding to God's Word

* HYMN #PH #391

"Take My Life"

verses 1,2,5,6

*Take my life, and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

*Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.*

*Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne,
It shall be Thy royal throne.*

*Take my love; my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee,
Ever, only, all for Thee.*

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison)

from the Iona Abbey

With the whole church we affirm that we are made in God's image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit. With people everywhere we affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong. With all creation we celebrate the miracle and wonder of life; the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and the world.

SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD'S SERVICE

* SUNG RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING PH #591

*“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.”*

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S 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.

Going Into The World as Christ's Disciples

* HYMN STF #2173

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

verses 1,3

*Refrain: Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory,
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire;
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy,
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.*

*Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me. (Refrain)*

*As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
So our faces display your likeness;
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me. (Refrain)*

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*** POSTLUDE**

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**OUR WORSHIP IS ENDED.  
OUR SERVICE BEGINS!**  
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Our Staff

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