



Piedmont COMMUNITY CHURCH



The Rev. Dr. William H. McNabb, Senior Minister

The Rev. Dr. Don Ashburn, Associate Minister

The Rev. Scott Kail, Youth Ministries

Leslie Quantz, Children's Ministries

Dr. Stephen T. Main, Music Minister

Rev. Dottie Hutch, Minister of Visitation

400 Highland Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611 Phone 510-547-5700 Fax 510-547-3714

WWW.PIEDMONTCHURCH.ORG

Order of Worship

July 9, 2017

9 & 10:30 o'clock

Prelude

Improvisation

For Your Reflection

Have patience with everything that remains unsolved in your heart. Try to love the questions themselves, like locked rooms and like books written in a foreign language. Do not now look for the answers. They cannot now be given to you because you could not live them. It is a question of experiencing everything. At present you need to live the question. Perhaps you will gradually, without even noticing it, find yourself experiencing the answer, some distant day.

— from *Letters to a Young Poet* by Rainer Maria Rilke

“What is real,” asked the rabbit one day.... “It doesn’t happen all at once,” said the Skin Horse. “You become. It takes a long time. That’s why it doesn’t happen often to people who break easily, or have sharp edges, or who have to be carefully kept. Generally, by the time you are Real, most of your hair has been loved off, and your eyes drop out and you get loose in your joints and very shabby. But these things don’t matter at all, because once you are Real you can’t be ugly, except to people who don’t understand.”

— from *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams

The search is what everyone would undertake if he were not stuck in the everydayness of his own life. To be aware of the possibility of the search is to be onto something. Not to be onto something is to be in despair.

— from *The Moviegoer* by Walker Percy

***Church Bell**

(*The congregation is invited to stand)

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist: Let us come together in the spirit of the One who unites us all;

People: **In the spirit of our Savior, Jesus Christ.**

Liturgist: Let us remember that we are God’s chosen people;

People: **Chosen to be God’s servants in the world.**

Liturgist: We gather because of our common need for renewal.

All: **Let us offer acceptable worship to God who renews us for service.**

***Hymn (10:30am)**

Come, thou Fount

Nettleton

Prayer of Praise and Invocation

Silent Prayer

Prayer of Preparation and Confession

Loving God, with silent persistence and prophetic witness you have loved every person and all of creation. You ache every time we destroy beauty, every time we harm one another, every time greed squashes kindness. You see when we ignore the outstretched hand and turn a deaf ear to cries for help. Merciful God, forgive us and let us take up the challenge to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly on the earth. Forgive us and let your Spirit fill us with courage. Forgive us and remind us of the ways you bless us. Never let us forget your all-embracing love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Words of Christian Greeting

Baptism of Issac Gordon Homer (10:30am)

Baptism of Caroline Madeleine Webster (9am)

Baptism of Tucker McAuliffe Woolard (10:30am)

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 for ever. Amen.

Anthem

Christ hath a garden

Tradition tune

Christa Pfeiffer, soprano

Christ hath a garden walled around, a paradise of fruitful ground, chosen by love and fenced by grace from out the world's wide wilderness.

Like trees of spice his servants stand, there planted by his mighty hand; by Eden's gracious streams, that flow to feed their beauty where they grow.

Awake, O wind of heaven, and bear their sweetest perfume through the air; stir up, O South, the boughs that bloom, till the beloved Master come.

That he may come, and linger yet among the trees that he hath set; that he may evermore be seen to walk amid the springing green.

—Isaac Watts, adapted

Scripture Lesson

Luke 17:20-21

(Pew Bible p. 742)

Once Jesus was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, and he answered, "The kingdom of God is not coming with things that can be observed; nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'There it is!' For, in fact, the kingdom of God is among you."

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 13:44

(Pew Bible p. 691)

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

Sermon

"MEETING THE WIZARD"
The Rev. Dr. William H. McNabb

Offertory (9am) (see Anthem)

Offertory (10:30am) *Howsoever they may revile me* G. F. Händel
Christa Pfeiffer (1685-1759)

Howsoever they may revile me, shall my faith resplendent shine. Nor could death itself compel me ever to leave the fire divine.

***Doxology (10:30am)** (Hymnal, p. 572)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

God of revelation, in Christ your word has been made fully known. As we continue to unwrap the mysterious gift of his presence, use our gifts to proclaim him. Use us for your continued work, as we grow to spiritual maturity. In his name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn 39 (10:30am)** God is love; His mercy brightens *Cross of Jesus*

***Commission and Benediction**

Organ Voluntary *Improvisation*

Receiving the sacrament of baptism today is **Isaac Gordon Homer, son of Chris & Heidi Homer.**

Receiving the sacrament of baptism today is **Caroline Madeleine Webster, daughter of Lauren & Matt Webster.**

Receiving the sacrament of baptism today is **Tucker McAuliffe Wollard, son of Heather & John Wollard and grandson of Janine & Stephen McAuliffe and of Anne Wollard.**

We are delighted and grateful that you have come to worship here this morning. We especially welcome those of you who are visitors. If you would like more information about PCC, please visit the Welcome Table after the service and speak with a member of the Welcoming Team. Welcomers can be identified by their special name tags.

Our Welcoming Team includes **Bob & Carol Leslie.**

Please join us after the service for coffee.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of **John Halley, Sr., from John and Connie Halley.**

Please silence your cell phones.

This morning's greeter is **Suzanne Latham** and **Linda Rice**. The ushers are **Geoff & Dana Gordon Colton**, **Jay Foreman**, and **Paul Simonson**. The Board of Deacons greeters are **Jay Foreman** and **Charlie Wood**. They will be available during the coffee hour to answer questions you may have about the church.

The Clara Barton Room (outside sanctuary to the right) has closed circuit viewing of the service for parents with infants and young children.

Please ask an usher for assistance if needed.

Announcements

- **Summer Sunday school** - In July children are welcome to stay with their families in the Sanctuary. During August, the children will all be together in the Youth Room. The Nursery is open all summer.
- **Summer Rock and Livewire Pizza Lunches** - For whoever is in town let's give this a try! We will open the youth room to hang out, have some pizza, and put something on the big screen. Join us when you can, bring friends and \$5 for pizza. Hope to see you on these Wednesdays from 12-2pm - July 19, 26 and August 2 and 9.
- **PCC's Chancel Choir seeking new auditions!** The Chancel Choir is a central part of the music program at the church, singing services and concerts with instrumental ensembles throughout the program year. The Choir rehearses on Wednesday nights, and is always interested in potential new members for this unique musical experience! If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact Steve Main at 415-902-7495, or steve@stephenmain.com, to find out more and arrange a (user-friendly!) audition.
- **As you may know, PCC offers 4 Shared Interest Groups that meet periodically to pursue, well, interests that peoples share.** There are groups for: Hiking (led by Mary Heller), Theatre (Judy Wright), Dinner Club (Kristi Marcelle), Needles and Hooks (knitting and crafts, led by Sue Coffin), and Food Truck/Restaurant outings (Linda Rice). If you'd like to join in the activities of one of our groups, look for upcoming events in the Sunday bulletin, in The Messenger and on our website: www.piedmontchurch.org. You can also contact the group leaders individually via PCC-Connect (linked to the

website). In the fall, we'll be starting even more shared interest groups. So, if you have an idea for a group to start, please let Rev. Don Ashburn know this summer. You can reach him at: don@piedmontchurch.org, or 547-5700, ext. 105.

• **Save the date - September 10** will be the date for the **All Church Picnic**. Also it will be the date when our Chancel Choir will return.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, July 9

9:00 am Worship service, Sanctuary
10:30 am Sunday School preK - 6 in sanctuary with parents
10:30 am Worship service, Sanctuary
10:30 am Nursery care, Christian Education Building

Monday, July 10

10:00 am Piedmont Gardens Bible Study will not meet
2:00 pm Needles and Hooks (Shared Interest Group), Guild Parlor
4:30 pm Spiritual Formation Group, Guild Parlor
7:00 pm Board of Trustees, Guild Parlor

Tuesday, July 11

7:00 pm Small Group Bible Study, 8 Hillcrest Ct., Oakland

Wednesday, July 12

Thursday, July 13

9:45 am Women's Bible Study, Guild Parlor
7:00 pm Walking Together, Guild Parlor

Friday, July 14

Saturday, July 15

7:30 am Men's Bible Study, Founders' Room

Sunday, July 16

9:00 am Worship service, Sanctuary
10:30 am Sunday School preK - 6 in sanctuary with parents
10:30 am Worship service, Sanctuary
10:30 am Nursery care, Christian Education Building

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Nettleton

1. Come, Thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace:
 2. Hith - er - to thy love has blest me; thou hast brought me to this place;
 3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I know thy hand will bring me safe - ly home by thy good grace.
 Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger, wan - dering from the fold of God;
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

praise His name, I'm fixed up - on it, name of God's re - deem - ing love.
 He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, bought me with his pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

God Is Love; His Mercy Brightens 39

O the depth of the riches . . . of the wisdom and knowledge of God! Rom. 11:33

John Bowring, 1825

CROSS OF JESUS 8 7 8 7

John Stainer, 1887

1. God is love; His mer-cy bright-ens All the path in which we rove;
2. Chance and change are bus-y ev-er; Man de-cays and a-ges move;
3. E'en the hour that dark-est seem-eth, Will His change-less good-ness prove;
4. He with earth-ly cares en-twin-eth Hope and com-fort from a-bove;

Bliss He wakes and woe He light-ens; God is wis-dom, God is love.
But His mer-cy wan-eth nev-er; God is wis-dom, God is love.
Through the gloom His bright-ness stream-eth; God is wis-dom, God is love.
Ev-ery-where His glo-ry shin-eth; God is wis-dom, God is love. A-men.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass staff for the voice, and a grand staff (treble and bass) for the piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes four verses of lyrics and a concluding chorus. The piano part provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

HIS ATTRIBUTES