



Rev. Dr. Steve Schibsted, Transitional Pastor
Rev. Dr. Don Ashburn, Associate Pastor
Rev. Scott Kail, Youth Pastor
Leslie Quantz, Children's Ministries
Dr. Stephen T. Main, Music Minister
Rev. Dottie Hutch, Visitation Pastor



Piedmont Community Church



No matter your age, race, economic status, religious background,
gender or sexual orientation, you are welcome here.

400 Highland Avenue, Piedmont, California, 94611
(510) 547-5700 PiedmontChurch.org



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WELCOME BACK

Order of Worship

October 17, 2021

10:00 o'clock

Preparation for Worship

Prelude	<i>Siciliana</i>	J. S. Bach
	Leslie Chin, flute	(1685-1750)

***Church Bell** (*The congregation is invited to stand)
***Call to Worship** Dr. Don Ashburn

Liturgist:	People of God, the Lord is merciful!
People:	God forgives our sin.
Liturgist:	People of God, the Lord is good!
People:	God restores us to the way of salvation.
Liturgist:	People of God, the Lord is love!
People:	God revives our spirit so that we may rejoice.
Liturgist:	People of God, the Lord is faithful!
People:	God speaks so that we may follow.
Liturgist:	People of God, the Lord is righteous!
All:	God's glory fills this place. Let us worship the Lord our God!

***Hymn 26** Praise, my soul, the King of heaven *Lauda anima*

Prayer of Confession

Holy and merciful God, you have called us to live as disciples of your son Jesus. And you have equipped us with power to be the heart, hands and feet of Christ to the world. Yet, we confess that instead of serving our neighbors with the might and boldness of your Spirit, we are timid and afraid. We miss opportunities to be salt and light. We fail to be peacemakers. We harbor resentments and justify our anger rather than model radical forgiveness. We are more judgmental than compassionate. Forgive us, we pray. Grant to us a renewed vision of who we are in you. Revitalize our faith and transform our lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Words of Christian Greeting

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.

Scripture Lesson

Galatians 3:15-25

(Pew Bible p. 824)

Brothers and sisters, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case. The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed," meaning one person, who is Christ. What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise. For if the inheritance depends on the law, then it no longer depends on the promise; but God in his grace gave it to Abraham through a promise.

Why, then, was the law given at all? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. The law was given through angels and entrusted to a mediator. A mediator, however, implies more than one party; but God is one.

Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. But Scripture has locked up everything under the control of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.

Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.

Sermon

"WHY BE GOOD?"

The Rev. Dr. Steve Schibsted

Offertory*Whom shall I send?*

Stephen Main

Leslie Chin, flute

Andrew Green, tenor

"Whom shall I send?" our Maker cries, and many, when they hear God's voice, are sure where their vocation lies, but many shrink from such a choice.

For who can serve a God so pure, or claim to speak in such a Name, while doubt makes every step unsure, and self confuses every aim?

And yet, believing God who calls knows what we are and still may be – our past defeats, our future falls – we dare to answer, "Lord, send me!"

Those who are called God purifies, and daily gives us strength to bend our thoughts, our skills, our energies, and life itself to this one end.

–F. Pratt Green

***Doxology**

(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**

Gracious God, you have blessed us with all that we need, and often more than we need. Help us receive what you give with grace. Then, help us to be generous — with our money, our possessions, our talents and our time. We ask that you would accept and consecrate all these gifts to further your work in the world. In Jesus' name. Amen.

*Hymn 338

Lord, I want to be a Christian

Traditional

*Commission and Benediction

Organ Voluntary

Improvisation

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 Piedmont Community Church, please visit our website at PiedmontChurch.org

Please silence your cell phones.

This morning's ushers are **Patty Dunlap** and **Linda Rice**. The Board of Deacons greeters are **Jane Anderson** and **Katrina Bergen**. They will be available during the coffee hour to answer questions you may have about the church.

Please join us after the service for coffee.

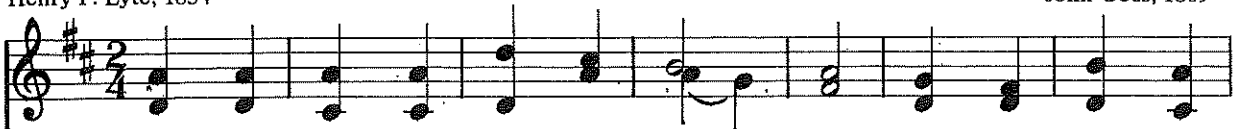
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven 26

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits. Psalms 103:2.

Psalm 103
Henry F. Lyte, 1834

LAUDA ANIMA 878787

John Goss, 1869



1. Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en, To His feet your
2. Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor To our fa - thers
3. Fa - ther - like, He tends and spares us; Well our fee - ble
4. An - gels in the height, a - dore Him, You be - hold Him



trib - ute bring; Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress; Praise Him, still the same as ev - er,
frame He knows, In His hands He gen - tly bears us,
face to face; Saints tri - um - phant, bow be - fore Him;



Ev - er - more His prais - es sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Slow to chide and swift to bless. Al - le - lu - ia!
Res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia!
Gath - ered in from ev - ery race. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows!
Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace! A - men.



338 Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Desire the sincere milk of the Word, that ye may grow thereby. 1 Pet. 2:2

Traditional Spiritual

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN Irreg.
Traditional Spiritual

1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian In - a my heart, in - a my
 2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing In - a my heart, in - a my
 3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In - a my heart, in - a my
 4. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In - a my heart, in - a my

heart, Lord, I want to be a Chris - tian In - a my heart.
 heart, Lord, I want to be more lov - ing In - a my heart.
 heart, Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In - a my heart.
 heart, Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In - a my heart.

Refrain

In - a my heart, In - a my heart,
 In - a my heart, In - a my heart,
 In - a my heart, In - a my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Chris - tian In - a my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing In - a my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In - a my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In - a my heart.