

(Stained glass window from St Aloysius' church in Somers Town, London)

Pentecost Sunday – May 19, 2024, 10:30 a.m. Sixth Annual "Pentecost in the Park" First Presbyterian Church, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Second Presbyterian Church, First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

PRELUDE "He Never Failed Me Yet" Robert Ray
Gospel Choir, director Dr. Marques Ruff – Brett Epperson, Piano

I will sing of God's mercy every day, every hour,
He gives me power.
I will sing and give thanks to Thee for all the dangers, toils and snares that He has brought me out.
He is my God and I'll serve Him no matter what the test
Trust and never doubt
Jesus will surely bring you out

He never failed me yet.

I know God is able to deliver
In times of storm
And I know that He'll keep you safe
From all earthly harm.
One day when my weary soul is at rest
I'm going home to be forever blessed
Trust and never doubt
Jesus will surely bring you out

He never failed me yet.

Didn't my God deliver Moses from King Pharaoh? And didn't He cool the fiery furnace For Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? When I think of what my God can do He delivered Daniel
I know He will deliver you.
Trust and never doubt
Jesus will surely bring you out
He never failed me yet

WELCOME Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Elba Iris Nazario

Rushing Wind of the Spirit, breathe new life into us!

Blazing Flame of the Spirit, burn away our fears!

Comforting Presence of the Spirit, heal our wounds.

Let us prepare to worship and praise you, O Holy Spirit.

Spirit of God, come upon us this day and fill us with your love.

Make us people who will proclaim God's good news in all that we do.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Paul Ozbun

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Spirit of God, we hesitate and doubt. You call us to act boldly, but our fear keeps us from following your call. Forgive our lack of courage. Embolden us to dream big and trust the Spirit to fill us and use us. Help us be Christ's church without hesitation. Guided by your Holy Spirit, help us usher in your kingdom to come. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Don't be afraid!

God's Holy Spirit brings us comfort and hope.

You are being prepared to serve God in some mighty ways.

Rejoice! God's Holy Spirit is with us always.

In the name of Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit, you are forgiven and loved as God's own.

Alleluia! Amen!

RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

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*PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also, with you.

(Greet others around you this morning by exchanging the Peace of Christ.)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rose Koepp

While the children are coming forward, we will sing "This Little Light of Mine"

ANTHEM "City Called Heaven" arr. Josephine Poelinitz
Gospel Choir, Director Brett Epperson – Linda Vollweiler, Piano – Marques Ruff, Soloist

I am a pilgrim, a pilgrim of sorrow I'm left in this wide world, this wide world alone

Ain't got no hope, got no hope for tomorrow Trying to make it, make heaven my home

I am a poor pilgrim, a poor pilgrim of sorrow I'm left in this old wide world, this old wide world alone Oh, I ain't got no hope, got no hope for tomorrow

I'm trying to make it, make heaven my home

Sometimes I'm tossed and I'm driven, Lord Sometimes I just don't know which way to turn. I Heard of a city, a city called heaven I am Trying to make it, make heaven my home

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Elba Iris Nazario

O God, open our hearts and minds and souls to hear your word as if for the first time. May your Holy Spirit help us experience anew the surprise and joy that your presence in the word can bring us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Acts 2:1-21

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

MESSAGE "Holy Spirit Hope!"

Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett, Rev. Elba Iris Nazario, Rev. Paul Ozbun, Rose Koepp

*HYMN

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

Rev. Paul Ozbun

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*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Responsive Apostles' Creed)

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING Offering to Benefit Hastings Community Food Pantry Since 1982 the Hastings Food Pantry had served Hastings and the surrounding areas with food distributions when requested by local service agencies or churches. During the 2023 calendar year, Hastings Food Pantry prepared 1281 distributions serving 3741 individuals.

(Offering can be given by putting money into the baskets as you leave or scanning the QR code. First Presbyterian Church will report on the donations)



Sing till the power of the Lord come down. Shout Hallelujah! Praise His Holy name!

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me; I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see. Jesus, Jesus, how I love Thee! Shout Hallelujah! Praise his Holy name!

Sing till the power of the Lord come down. Shout Hallelujah! Praise His Holy name!

Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the

world go free?

No, there's a cross for ev'ryone and there's a cross for me.

Jesus, Jesus, how I love Thee! Shout Hallelujah!

Praise His Holy Name!

Sing till the power of the Lord come down. Shout Hallelujah! Praise His Holy name!

Holy Jesus, Praise His Name! Hallelujah, Praise his Holy name. Let us Praise His Name, Praise His Holy Name! Hallelujah Oh, oh-Praise High Holy Name!

Praise Him!

*CHARGE and BLESSING

POSTLUDE "Music of Heaven" Jason Robert Brown

Gospel Choir – Marques Ruff, Soloist – Brett Epperson, Piano

I come with my armor in place Emotions in check and thinking I'm smarter, Or just more realistic- I sit with my frozen smile, All the while Reluctant to trust what I'm told Cynical, cold Challenging music of Heaven To open a crack in my chest And let something glorious in. Music of Heaven Should puncture me, suddenly Blessed, blessed, blessed Let the music begin, Let the music begin.

They sing and they cry and I watch, Lean back in my chair, The classic New Yorker, Alone among millions, Indifference upon my face, Out of place, But longing to feel what you feel... Like it was real; Like there could be music of Heaven To open some path to your soul. And let something glorious in Music of Heaven Allows you to give up control Yes, yes Let the music begin, Let the music begin

And I sit there with dry eyes, And cold hands
Judging and standing apart Dry eyes And cold
hands Waiting and wondering When will it
open my heart? When will it open my heart?
When will I open my heart? (Holy Father!) I
hear you singing (Holy Father!) And I want to
say yes Say yes Say yes, I want to sing Holy
Father! I want to sing Holy Father! I want to
sing Holy Father! Say yes! Say yes!
Say yes! I need to sing (Holy Father!) I need to
cry (Holy Father!) I need to believe! (Holy
Father! Holy Father!) And I can say yes! Let the
music begin, Let the music begin.

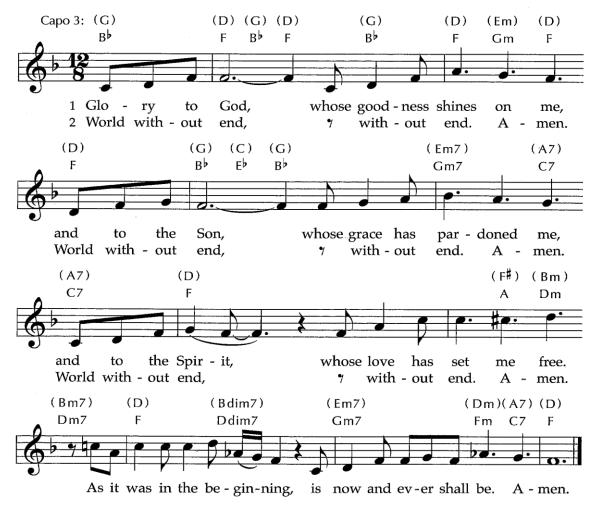
Presiding:

Reverend Greg Allen-Pickett, First Presbyterian Church of Hastings Reverend Paul Ozbun, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Hastings Reverend Elba Iris Nazario, First Christian Church of Hastings Rose Koepp, Director of Christian Education, First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

Leading Music: Linda Vollweiler and Brett Epperson, Piano *Gospel Choir*, directed by Dr. Marques Ruff

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Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me



TEXT: Trad. liturgical text; adapt. Paul M. Vasile, 2008 MLISIC: Paul M. Vasile, 2008 GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)





Like many African American spirituals, this one mixes the language of biblical narrative with veiled but effective allusions to the hope of escape from slavery, either by crossing rivers into free states or by participating in organized efforts like the Underground Railroad.