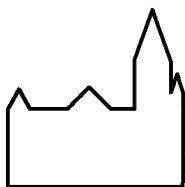


**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OF ENGLEWOOD**



LIVE boldly
SHARE boundlessly
GROW community
BUILD God's world

September 6, 2015
Eleven o'clock

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE GATHERING

*The service of worship begins with the prelude; quiet is requested as you enter the sanctuary and prepare for worship. In the spirit of Christian fellowship, we invite you to wear a name tag which is available from the greeters. As a community that prays with and for one another, we invite you to share your joys and concerns by using the prayer cards available from the ushers and in the pew racks. Those parts of the Service of Worship in which the congregation participates in word or song are noted in bold type. *Please stand as you are able.**

PRELUDE

Aria

Paul Manz

*** CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Incline your hearts to the wisdom of God

People: We seek integrity and understanding

Leader: God's law gives light to all who hear it

People: The Lord gives wisdom and truth

Leader: The Lord will reign forever

People: Praise be to the Lord!

*** HYMN 482**

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty *Lobe Den Herren*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we confess that we find it a lot easier to play favorites, rather than treating everyone equally. We find it simpler to classify others as 'them,' instead of discovering what makes them beloved in your eyes. We know you are at the side of the poor, while we cozy up to the prosperous. Forgive us, O Lord, and do good to us even when we have trouble doing good for others. Surround us with your love; surround us with your grace; surround us with your peace; surround us with the Spirit of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, in whose name we pray.

PRAYERS OF SILENT AND INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Friends, believe and proclaim the Good News:
in Jesus Christ, love breaks through hatred, hope breaks
through despair, life breaks through death.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and set free.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymnal No. 579 *Gloria Patri*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen, Amen.*

* EXCHANGE OF PEACE

Leader: Let us open our hearts to one another as Christ has opened
his heart to us, and God will be glorified.

People: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

(Exchange Signs of Reconciliation and the Peace of Christ with your
neighbor - e.g., *"The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you."*)

Response - *"And also with you."*)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

* HYMN 357

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

Maryton

+ *Children leave for Summer Sunday School.* +

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-10

ANTHEM

The Prayer
TAI COLLINS, TENOR

Foster

SECOND LESSON

Mark 7:24-37

SERMON

“Interruptions” Rev. Richard S. Hong

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Cujus Animam (from “Stabat Mater”)
TAI COLLINS, TENOR

Rossini

Cujus animam gementem Contristatem et dolentes Per transivit gladius.

O quam tristis et afflicta Fuit illa benedicta Mater unigeniti.

Quae morebat et dolebat et tremebat cum videbat Nati poenas inclyti.

Whose soul, lamenting, sorrowing and grieving, has been pierced by the sword.

O how sad and afflicted was that blessed Mother of her only-begotten Son.

Who wept and grieved and trembled to behold the torment of her glorious child.

* THE DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host.

Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PASTORAL 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.

THE SENDING OUT

* HYMN 408 Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life Germany

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE March Mathias

Our worship ends with the conclusion of the Postlude. (It is the custom of our church to remain seated. Those who wish to leave may do so.)

* * * * *

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 35:1-10 (NRSV)

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Mark 7:24-37 (NRSV)

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

* * * * *