

**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OF ENGLEWOOD**



LIVE boldly
SHARE boundlessly
GROW community
BUILD God's world

September 14, 2014
Eleven o'clock

TWENTY-FOURTH 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 welcome pad folders. 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

Adagio (Symphony IV)

Widor

* **HYMN 487**

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Laudes Domini

* **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Sing songs of hope and peace.

People: God's love and power have lifted us.

Leader: Sing songs of mercy and grace.

People: God's mercy and forgiveness frame our lives.

Leader: Thanks be to God, whose love is continually with us.

People: Praise be to God, whose mercy is over us all.

INTROIT

Hal Hopson

*O come and worship the Lord; Bow down to him in praise; for holy is the Lord;
Holy, holy, holy.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

David Bishop

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, God of grace, we acknowledge that yours is a love that freely gives without any strings attached. We know we often fall into the snare of being legalistic about forgiveness. Jesus tells us that if we wish to be his disciples we are to place no limits, no conditions on our mercy or our love. Remind us that forgiveness is one of the most precious gifts that we can offer one another. We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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.*

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

* THE APOSTLES' CREED (*in unison*)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by
the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the
third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and
sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence
he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy
Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the
forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life
everlasting. Amen.

QUESTIONS OF INTENT

PRAYER

THE BAPTISM OF ELI YU BALES

PRAYER

Pastor: Eternal God, we praise you for calling us to be a servant people
... Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom we give honor and glory forever.

*People: Remind us of the promises given in our own baptism, and
renew our trust in you. Make us strong to obey your will, and to
serve you with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

PRESENTATION OF BIBLE

* 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."*)

* HYMN 347

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

Detroit

+ Children and Youth leave for Church School Classes. +

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 14:19-31

ANTHEM

Behold, Now Praise the Lord

Everett Titcomb

*Behold now, praise the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord. Ye that by night stand in the
house of the Lord even in the courts of the house of our God lift up your hands in the
sanctuary, and praise the Lord.*

PSALM 134

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 18:21-35

SERMON

“Letting Go”

Rev. Richard S. Hong

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Abide With Me

arr. Bertalot

The text may be found in the Hymnal at No. 543

* 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 344

Christ of the Upward Way

Sursum Corda

* BENEDICTION

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

Toccata in A Minor, op. 59

Reger

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.)

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TODAY'S MUSIC

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937) was the organist at St. Sulpice in Paris for 60 years and composed 10 organ symphonies consisting of suites of romantic pieces. The music of *Everett Titcomb* (1884-1968) occupies a unique niche sacred organ and choral works by 20th-century Anglican composers in the United States. His style was clearly influenced by the Bostonian giants of his youth (Dudley Buck, Horatio Parker—who's mother once had Titcomb as a border) as well as his affinity for French music. He spent fifty years nearly to the day (1910-1960) as organist and choirmaster at Boston's Church of St. John the Evangelist. *John Bertalot* (b. 1931) is a British organist and conductor. He most recently served at Trinity Church, Princeton and is the author of several standard texts on choral conducting. *Max Reger* (1873-1916) was a prolific German composer whose works are seldom heard today outside of organ recitals. He composed some of the densest, most technically challenging music ever written for organ, often at the request of his friend Karl Straube, a gifted organist. In contrast to his large works, his smaller forms, like today's postlude, have drama, contrast and excitement all in a concise package.

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TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 12:1-14 (NRSV)

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." ²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the

Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea.
²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ³⁰Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Matthew 18:21-35 (NRSV)

Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”