

PROVIDENCE FORGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 19, 2020

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 139

Leader: God, you search me and know me. Before I sit, you know when I will rise.

People: God, you search me and know me. Before I speak, you know what I will say.

Leader: God, you search me and know me, in my joy and despair, in my breathing in and breathing out

People: God, you search me and know me. Your knowledge is too deep to reach, too vast to comprehend.

All: God, you search me and know me. Search me, O God, and know my heart.

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Psalm 139

All-knowing God, we gather together with praise and thanksgiving for who You are, and for all that You have done for us. You know us better than we know ourselves— all our thoughts and actions— and yet You love us. No matter where we go or what we do, Your love encircles us—ahead and behind— gently leading and guiding and blessing. We praise You for Your love and Your faithful presence in our lives. May Your Spirit move in our hearts and minds as we worship together— examine our attitudes and actions, lay bare the things we need to confess, challenge us with Your Word, and guide us on to paths that lead to life. For we are Your people, called by Your name. Amen.

SONG of PRAISE #404 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm worn;
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

When my way grows drear precious Lord linger near
When my light is almost gone Hear my cry, hear my call
Hold my hand lest I fall
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.

Text Copyright © 1938 by Hill & Range Songs, Inc. Copyright renewed, assigned to Unichappell Music, Inc. (Ringstong Music, Publisher.) International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Used by Permission.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 9:57-62

⁵⁷As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." ⁵⁹He said to another man, "Follow me." But he replied, "LORD, first let me go and bury my father." ⁶⁰Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God." ⁶¹Still another said, "I will follow you, LORD; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family." ⁶²Jesus replied, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

ANTHEM

This is My Song

SERMON

Dr. Rev. Cindy Kissel-Ito

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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.

FOR CHILDREN Acts 9: 1-4 (Easy to Read Version)

9 Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Seasons of Mercy

Eternal God, in times of prayer and introspection we look deeply inside ourselves. We find memories both haunting and sweet; memories we choose to forget, but cannot. These memories are never lost and are always with us. Holy one, we believe that you work in ways that are unfathomable to our minds. We believe that you can heal us. As you use your power to affirm and strengthen us, allow your Spirit to heal memories that haunt, weaken and hurt us. Speak to us of your love. Heal and comfort us through the images and stories of your Word. Like diamonds embedded in the rock of the earth, let your Word shine within us, riches in the midst of rubble.

Living Christ, you come to meet us in each and every person. Behind the steady pace of our lives, you dwell in the inner sanctuary we call our soul. In this quiet and holy place, You spread your arms, creating an oasis of peace. Renew us by your presence that we may follow you.

LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING – Ayars Lore

Opportunities are:

Easytithe - <https://app.easytithe.com/App/Giving/pfpc>

Checks to C&F Bank for PFPC and mail to P.O. Box 239

SONG OF RESPONSE #357 O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

O Master, let me walk with Thee In lowly paths of service free
Tell me Thy secret, help me hear The strain of toil, the fret of care

Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of
love; Teach me the wayward feet to stay, And guide them in the
homeward way.

Teach me Thy patience, still with Thee In closer, dearer company
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong In truth that triumphs over
wrong

In hope that sends a shining ray Far down the future's broadening way
In peace that only Thou canst give With Thee, O Master, let me live

BENEDICTION Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

People: Peace be with you!