



***Ebensburg Presbyterian Church***  
***8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost***  
***July 31, 2022***

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EbensburgPresbyterianChurch>

Webpage: <https://ebgpresby.org>

## GATHERING

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PRAISE CHORUS—Lord I Lift Your Name on High

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

**His faithful love endures forever.**

Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story—

**those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,**

those he gathered from the lands,

**from east and west, from north and south.**

for Lord satisfies the thirsty

**and fills the hungry with good things.**

\*HYMN # 464 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

\*CALL TO CONFESSION Psalm 23

Praise is on our lips,

but in our hearts, we know how far we have fallen  
from the glory of God.

Yet God meets us in our sin, picks us up,  
and promises forgiveness.

Let us make our confession

and open ourselves to God's mercy.

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison) CTW—551

**Faithful God,**

**We confess our faithlessness.**

**Our hearts are fickle,**

**our eyes wander,**

**and we trick ourselves into serving other gods.**

**We speak lies, accept lies, live lies,**

**destroying others and ourselves along the way.**

**Forgive our waywardness**

**and lead us back to you.**

**Embolden our trust in your faithfulness**

**and settle your truth in our hearts. Amen** (silent prayer)

\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (responsively)

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Beyond the cross, beyond the grave, beyond our sin,

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, nurtured, and safe.**

\*GLORIA PATRI

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST: (responsively)

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also, with you.**

(Please share the peace of Christ with those around you.)

### **THE WORD OF GOD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

**Loving God,**

**as we now turn to your Word, may the Holy Spirit rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing; calm our thoughts, clear the cobwebs from our ears and penetrate the corners of our hearts by your living Word. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

FIRST READING: Acts 3:17-25 Pg. 886

SECOND READING: Galatians 4:21-31 Pg. 947

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: FREEDOM—Your Spiritual Identity

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*HYMN # 379 My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—Apostles' Creed

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; on the third day, He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heav-en, 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 Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION—in unison (Source: Jeff Shrowder 1999, The Billabong)

**Gracious and holy God,  
accept what we offer today:  
our cheques and cash, our faltering steps,  
our brokenness, our leftovers,  
our hope, our risking, our lives.  
Bless and transform all that we offer  
and all that we hold back,  
that new life may be ours,  
to celebrate and share in Jesus' name. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER CTW 551C

Surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses,  
we pray for the fulfillment of God's promise,  
saying: In faith, O God, **we seek your grace.**

We pray for the church . . .  
Strip away our falsehood and evil  
and clothe us with your loving-kindness,  
a garment for the body of Christ.  
In faith, O God, **we seek your grace.**

We pray for the world . . .  
Show us the vanity of our ways,  
toiling away for sinful, selfish gain.  
Turn our hearts to seek the common good.  
In faith, O God, **we seek your grace.**

We pray for this community . . .  
Give shelter to refugees in our midst,  
those fleeing from disaster, persecution, or war.  
Help them find safety and peace among us.  
In faith, O God, **we seek your grace.**

We pray for loved ones . . .  
Remember your beloved children  
who are struggling and suffering this day.  
Take them in your arms and heal them.  
In faith, O God, **we seek your grace.**

Strengthen us to run the race that is before us,  
laying aside the heavy burdens of sin and death  
and following the pioneer and perfecter of our faith:  
Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord, who taught us to pray,

**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**

\*HYMN # 281 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

\*BLESSING AND CHARGE (responsively)

May the blessing of the Trinity—  
God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit  
be with you now and always. **Alleluia!**

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

**\*Please stand if you are able**

## Psalm 107 God's Deliverance

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;  
His faithful love endures forever.

<sup>2</sup> Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim  
that He has redeemed them from the hand of the foe  
<sup>3</sup> and has gathered them from the lands—  
from the east and the west,  
from the north and the south.

<sup>4</sup> Some<sup>[a]</sup> wandered in the desolate wilderness,  
finding no way to a city where they could live.

<sup>5</sup> They were hungry and thirsty;  
their spirits failed<sup>[b]</sup> within them.

<sup>6</sup> Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble;  
He rescued them from their distress.

<sup>7</sup> He led them by the right path  
to go to a city where they could live.

<sup>8</sup> Let them give thanks to the Lord  
for His faithful love  
and His wonderful works for all humanity.

<sup>9</sup> For He has satisfied the thirsty  
and filled the hungry with good things.

## **PRAYER LIST**

If you have any names you would like added to the Prayer List, please call the church office at 814-472-6920 or place the names in the Offering Baskets near each of the front entrances.

Thank you.

Tim and Paula Crow

Father Pat Kirsch

James O'Hara

Gloria P.

Dan Quaglia

Mary R.

Cathy Rocus

Bob S.

Claudette Segear

Tim Forberger

Katrin Wolf & Family

Chris Wolfe

Eva Tomb

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