



***Ebensburg Presbyterian***  
***6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost***  
***July 4, 2021***

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

**Webpage:** <https://ebgpresby.org>

## GATHERING

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Why do we come to worship God?

**We come seeking freedom and blessing from our Lord.**

What is this blessing that we seek?

**We seek an encounter with our God,**

who washes us in mercy, calls us to service, and fills us with love.

**Let us worship God together.**

\*HYMN # 262 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

\*CALL TO CONFESSION: (responsively)

It is only by the power of God  
that we are able to stand against evil.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**You are love, O God, and you have loved us from the beginning.**

**Forgive us when we do not share your love with the world:**

**when we choose selfishness over compassion;**

**what feels comfortable rather than what is right;**

**when we strive for success instead of faithfulness;**

**when we value independence over community.**

**Forgive us, O God, of the ways we fall short.**

**Free us to try again,**

**and let your love lead the way. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (responsively) Psalm 145:8-14

The Lord is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.

The Lord forgives us and renew our hopes. **Amen!**

\*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)

Holy, Holy, Holy One,  
guide us by the Spirit of truth and freedom  
to hear the Word of life you speak,  
and to give all glory, honor, and praise  
to your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Psalm 123                      Page 498

SECOND READING: Ezekiel 2:1–5              Page 673

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: "FREEDOM"

### **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (CTW541)

In the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we call on the name of the Lord, saying:  
By your Spirit, O God, **transform our lives.**

We pray for the church . . .  
Let the power of Christ dwell within us,  
turning our weakness into your strength,  
turning our guilt into your grace.  
By your Spirit, O God, **transform our lives.**

We pray for the world . . .  
Strengthen us, through your word,  
to stand up to oppressive powers  
and stand alongside those who are oppressed.  
By your Spirit, O God, **transform our lives.**

We pray for this community . . .  
Teach us to honor the prophets among us—  
even those from our own hometowns—  
listening when they speak your truth.  
By your Spirit, O God, **transform our lives.**

We pray for loved ones . . .  
Have mercy on all who are suffering,  
reach out to them with kindness  
and nourish them through your love.  
By your Spirit, O God, **transform our lives.**

Gracious God, continue to pour out your power  
in the church, in the world, and in our daily lives,  
so all will know that you are at work among us;  
through Jesus Christ, our living Lord, who taught us to pray, saying:

**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.**

\*HYMN #562 Eternal Father, Strong to Save

\*BLESSING AND CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION 1 Cor. 1:8-9

May God keep you and give you strength,

May he guide you and set you free unto eternity through Christ Jesus. Amen.

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

**Psalm 48: We rejoice in the greatness of the Lord our God.**

- <sup>1</sup> Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised  
in the city of our God.  
His holy mountain,  
<sup>2</sup> beautiful in elevation,  
is the joy of all the earth,  
Mount Zion, in the far north,  
the city of the great King.  
<sup>3</sup> Within its citadels God  
has shown himself a sure defense.  
<sup>4</sup> Then the kings assembled,  
they came on together.  
<sup>5</sup> As soon as they saw it, they were astounded;  
they were in panic, they took to flight;  
<sup>6</sup> trembling took hold of them there,  
pains as of a woman in labor,  
<sup>7</sup> as when an east wind shatters  
the ships of Tarshish.  
<sup>8</sup> As we have heard, so have we seen  
in the city of the Lord of hosts,  
in the city of our God,  
which God establishes forever.  
<sup>9</sup> We ponder your steadfast love,  
O God, in the midst of your temple.  
<sup>10</sup> Your name, O God, like your praise,  
reaches to the ends of the earth.  
Your right hand is filled with victory.  
<sup>11</sup> Let Mount Zion be glad,  
let the towns<sup>[a]</sup> of Judah rejoice  
because of your judgments.  
<sup>12</sup> Walk about Zion, go all around it,  
count its towers,  
<sup>13</sup> consider well its ramparts;  
go through its citadels,  
that you may tell the next generation  
<sup>14</sup> that this is God,  
our God forever and ever.  
He will be our guide forever.

PRAYER LIST

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

Jim Brown

Ashton Dixon

Len Dixon

Donald Lewis

Jamie

Anne Sedor Johnson

John Magyar

Curtis Mellott

Jeff Vietmeier

Colleen Wagner

Randy Wike

Chris Wolfe

Todd Youngblood

### **Dr. Charles Prijatelj**

**Dr. Charles Prijatelj has been a music educator and semi-professional musician for 40 years. Up-on stepping down from active band instruction, Dr. Prijatelj has spent 12 years as a school ad-ministrator and superintendent. Dr. P. stated, *"Sometimes it is just great to make music and celebrate with others."***

GOD

# 262 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

NATIONAL HYMN 10.10.10.10

Daniel Crane Roberts, 1876; alt.

George William Warren, 1892

*Trumpets may  
be played  
with each stanza*

1. God of the a - ges, whose al - might - y hand
2. Thy love di - vine hath led us in the past;
3. From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti - lence,
4. Re - fresh Thy peo - ple on their toil - some way,

Leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band  
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;  
Be Thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense;  
Lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;

Of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,  
Be Thou our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay;  
Thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease;  
Fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

Our grate - ful songs be - fore Thy throne a - rise.  
Thy word our law, Thy paths our cho - sen way.  
Thy boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.  
And glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er Thine.

# Eternal Father, Strong to Save

562

MELITA 8.8.8.8.8

William Whiting, 1860; alt.

John Bacchus Dykes, 1861

1. E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, Whose arm has bound the  
 2. O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word The wind and waves sub -  
 3. O Ho - ly Spir - it, who did brood Up - on the cha - os  
 4. O Trin - i - ty of love and power, All trav - elers guard in

rest - less wave, Who bade the might - y o - cean deep Its  
 mis - sive heard, Who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, And  
 wild and rude, And bade its an - gry tu - mult cease, And  
 dan - ger's hour; From rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, Pro -

own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we  
 calm a - mid its rage did sleep: O hear us when we  
 gave, for fierce con - fu - sion, peace: O hear us when we  
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; Thus ev - er - more shall

cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.  
 rise to Thee Glad praise from air and land and sea.