

Peace United Church of Christ
September 29th, 2024
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:30am



Quietly, Sarah Holst

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Prelude

Adagio and Allegro, Robert Schumann, op. 70

Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bells

*Call to Worship

from *Psalms* 124

Blessed is our God who protects us,

Our help is the name of God, maker of heaven and earth.

We are as free as birds loosed from the snares of hunters,

Our help is the name of God, maker of heaven and earth.

God is on our side, walking with us always.

Our help is the name of God, maker of heaven and earth.

Let us worship God!

*Song

Standing in the Need of Prayer

#519 NCH

***Not my brother, nor my sister, but it's me, O God,
standing in the need of prayer;***

***Not my brother, nor my sister, but it's me, O God,
standing in the need of prayer.***

Refrain:

It's me, it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer;

It's me, it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer.

***Not the preacher, nor the deacon, but it's me, O God,
standing in the need of prayer;***

***Not the preacher, nor the deacon, but it's me, O God,
standing in the need of prayer.***

Refrain:

***Not my father, nor my mother, but it's me, O God,
standing in the need of prayer;***

***Not my father, nor my mother, but it's me, O God,
standing in the need of prayer.***

Refrain:

***Not the stranger, nor my neighbor, but it's me, O God,
standing in the need of prayer;***

***Not the stranger, nor my neighbor, but it's me, O God,
standing in the need of prayer.***

Refrain:

*Prayer of Confession

God who is with us, who sees us and protects us, we confess that at times we feel helpless and hopeless. We fall short of your vision of radical love, beloved community, and abundance for all. Strengthen us in community, grow our love for you and one another, and guide us through prayer. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, hear the good news: there is nothing that can ever separate us from the love of God.

God hears our prayers, forgives us, and embraces us. Through this love, we are transformed!

*Passing of the Peace

Confirmation Blessing

Amanda McElray Hunter

Sending the Children

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,

Gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

What was it we wanted
 to say anyhow, like today
 when there were all the letters
 in my alphabet soup and suddenly
 the 'j' rises to the surface.
 The 'j', a letter that might be
 great for Scrabble, but not really
 used for much else, unless
 we need to jump for joy,
 and then all of a sudden
 it's there and ready to
 help us soar and to open up
 our hearts at the same time,
 this simple line with a curved bottom,
 an upside down cane that helps
 us walk in a new way into this
 forest of language, where all the letters
 are beginning to speak,
 finding each other in just
 the right combination
 to be understood.

Scripture Reading

James 5:13-20

Laura Hamel, reader

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

Choir Anthem

Let My Love Be Heard, Jake Runestad

*Angels, where you soar
 Up to God's own light,
 Take my own lost bird
 On your hearts tonight;
 And as grief once more
 Mounts to heaven and sings,
 Let my love be heard
 Whispering in your wings.*

Sermon

Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

Song

How Firm a Foundation

#407 NCH

***How firm a foundation for you has been laid,
 by God in the Word, in the sacrifice paid!
 What more can God say than to you has been said,
 to you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?***

***"Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
 for I am your God, I will still give you aid;
 I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand
 upheld by my gracious, omnipotent hand."***

***"When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of woe shall not over you flow;
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
delivering you from your deepest distress."***

***"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace all sufficient shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you; for I have designed
your soul to make pure just as gold is refined."***

***"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"***

Community Prayers and the Prayer of Jesus

Our Father and Mother, 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Choral Amen

Offertory

*Doxology

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen.***

*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Song

Over My Head

#514 NCH

***Over my head I hear music in the air.
Over my head I hear music in the air.
Over my head I hear music in the air,
there must be a God somewhere.***

***Over my head I see trouble in the air.
Over my head I see trouble in the air.
Over my head I see trouble in the air,
there must be a God somewhere.***

***Over my head I hear singing in the air.
Over my head I hear singing in the air.
Over my head I hear singing in the air,
there must be a God somewhere.***

***Over my head I see Jesus in the air.
Over my head I see Jesus in the air.
Over my head I see Jesus in the air,
there must be a God somewhere.***

*Benediction

*Postlude

Assisting in Today's Service:
Pam Kramer, Greeter
Marci Tuggle, Phyllis Cook, and Laurie Berner, Ushers
Deb Rausch, horn
Kate Dean and Elise Westbrook, Nursery Attendant
Janell Kohls, Ben and Joy Bittner, Coffee Hour Volunteers

Peace United Church of Christ Staff

Alex Nelson – Livestream Technician

Amanda McElray Hunter - Children, Youth and Small Group Coordinator

Bri Dornbush - Office Coordinator

Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis - Pastor

Carrie Kelsey – Kitchen Manager

Dan Shepard - Maintenance

Jim Pospisil - Music Director

Mali Lorenz - Bookkeeper

Rachel Obed - Business Manager

Sophia Farell – Soundboard Technician