IPC International Protestant Church Zurich

Sunday, October 19, 2025
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

During the Prelude, you are invited to meditate on the Psalm of the Day.

Welcome and Gathering Prayer Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Prelude

Prelude in E flat Major — Ruth Pfister, Organ
Johann Kaspar Ferdinand Fischer (1656-1746)

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 49:12-20

People, despite their wealth, do not endure;
they are like the beasts that perish.
This is the fate of those who trust in themselves,
and of their followers, who approve their sayings.
They are like sheep and are destined to die;
death will be their shepherd
(but the upright will prevail over them in the morning).
Their forms will decay in the grave,
far from their princely mansions.
But God will redeem me from the realm of the dead;
he will surely take me to himself.
Do not be overawed when others grow rich,
when the splendor of their houses increases;
for they will take nothing with them when they die,
their splendor will not descend with them.
Though while they live they count themselves blessed—
and people praise you when you prosper—
they will join those who have gone before them,
who will never again see the light of life.
People who have wealth but lack understanding
are like the beasts that perish.

Introit

"Rejoice, Rejoice!" — IPC Singers
Text and Music: Mark Patterson — Cheyne Davidson, Director

***Call to Worship** – Psalm 105:1-4 — Randal Turner

Leader: Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;
People: make known among the nations what he has done.
Leader: Sing to him, sing praise to him;
People: tell of all his wonderful acts.
Leader: Glory in his holy name;
People: let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
Leader: Look to the Lord and his strength;
People: seek his face always.

***Hymn of Praise** #446 “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

Prayer of Confession Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Leader: Gracious God, forgive us for the misdirected desires of our hearts. So often we desire knowledge over wisdom, rightness over righteousness, gaining over giving, bigger over better, more over enough.

People: Forgive us for all of the desires of our hearts that witness to our own pride and selfishness, rather than to the humility and selflessness of Jesus. It is in his name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name (Acts 10:43).

People: Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin (Acts 13:39a).

God’s Will for Our Lives – 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Leader: Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

People: In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

***Gloria Patri** #579 “Glory Be to the Father”

RECEIVING THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer of Illumination

“Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet” IPC Singers

Text: Psalm 119:105; Music: Hugh Porter

Children’s Message Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Old Testament Reading – Ecclesiastes 5:8-15 (p. 673) Randal Turner

Meditation

“Make Room Within My Heart, O God” IPC Singers

Text: Bryan Jeffrey Leech; Music: Katherine K. Davis

New Testament Reading – Luke 12:13-21 (pp. 1044-1045)

Sermon

“Stories of an Alternative Reality: The Parable of the Rich Fool”

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn of Response** – #414 "As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought"

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings Patrik Jehle, Evening Worship Elder

Offertory
"Consider the Lilies" IPC Singers
Text: Natalie Sleeth (based on Matthew 6:28); Music: Natalie Sleeth
Arr: Jane Marshall

***Doxology** #592 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Prayers of the People Patrik Jehle

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison in English or the language of your choice*)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GOING WITH GOD'S MISSION AND BLESSING

Welcoming Guests & Announcements Patrik Jehle

Moment for Mission Jean-Claude Gottraux

***Hymn of Dedication** – #339 "Be Thou My Vision"

***Sending and Benediction** Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Choral Benediction
"May the Grace of the Lord" IPC Singers
Text: 2 Corinthians 13:14; Music: Ken Barker

Postlude
Fugue from Sonata in C minor op. 65 no. 2 Ruth Pfister, Organ
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Please remain quietly seated during the postlude. If you need to leave, please do so quietly.

****Please stand if you are able.***

In connection with Jesus' Parable of the Rich Fool, today's bulletin cover features a picture of two barns. These barns are located in the U.S. state of Illinois (photo credit: unknown).