IPC



Sunday, November 22, 2026
Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Entering God's Presence

During the Prelude, you are invited to meditate on the Psalm of the day as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Welcome and Gathering Prayer Nathan Wannemacher

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 56:1-4

Be merciful to me, my God,
for my enemies are in hot pursuit;
all day long they press their attack.

My adversaries pursue me all day long;
in their pride many are attacking me.

When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

In God, whose word I praise—
in God I trust and am not afraid.
What can mere mortals do to me?

Prelude

Prelude in C Major BWV 545 Ruth Pfister, Organ
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Introit

"I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me" IPC Choir
Music: Austin C. Lovelace

***Call to Worship** Jenny Bärlocher

Leader: Let us worship the eternal Father, the source of love and life, who creates us.

People: Let us worship Jesus Christ, the risen one, who lives among us.

Leader: Let us worship the Spirit, the holy fire, who renews us.

People: To the one true God be praise in all times and places, through the grace of Jesus Christ.

***Hymn of Praise** – #177 "Lift Up the Gates Eternal"

Approaching Our Gracious God in Repentance and Gratitude

Prayer of Confession Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Leader: Almighty God, we confess how poorly we have lived as your people. You have called us to be the church, to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to our world,

People: Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, isolated than involved, callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving.

Leader: Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins.

People: Awaken us to truly live as your representatives to a broken world. This we pray in Jesus' powerful name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon – Acts 10:43

Leader: All the prophets testify about Christ that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

People: Thanks be to God!

God's Gracious Will for Our Lives – Philippians 4:4,5,8,9

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

People: Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

***Gloria Patri** – #579 "Glory Be to the Father"

Hearing the Word of God

Choral Prayer of Illumination
"Thy Word Is a Lamp"
Text: Psalm 119:105; Music: Hugh Porter

Old Testament Reading – Genesis 4:1-8 (p. 6) Jenny Bärlocher

New Testament Reading – Matthew 5:10-12 (pp. 968-969)

Sermon
"Kingdom Flourishing: Blessed Are Those Who Are Persecuted Because of Righteousness" — Nathan Wannemacher

Responding to God's Word

***Hymn of Response** – #303 "Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings — Tariq Dennison, Treasurer

Offertory
"Create in Me a Clean Heart, O Lord" — IPC Choir
Text: Psalm 51:10-13; Music: Carl F. Mueller

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

Prayers of the People — Tariq Dennison

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 Charge and Blessing

Welcoming of Visitors — Tariq Dennison

Announcements

***Hymn of Dedication** – "He Leadeth Me! O Blessed Thought" (*see insert*)

***Sending and Pastoral Benediction** — Nathan Wannemacher

Choral Benediction
"May the Road Rise to Meet You"
Traditional Irish Blessing; Music: Jody Lindh

Postlude
Fugue in C Major BWV 545 — Ruth Pfister, Organ
Johann Sebastian Bach

Please stand if you are able.
Today's bulletin cover is an oil on canvas painting entitled "Cain Slaying Abel" (1650-52) by Italian artist Pier Francesco Mola. It is located in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, United States.
https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/817124