

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, September 20, 2020

Watch live: <https://youtu.be/vODHKwmeAK8>

Pre-worship Moments at 9:45 AM – A Worship and Arts Experience

(For those in the sanctuary, you can watch post service at home on our website or Facebook.)

Hymn – God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

Edward Schmiedecke, Baritone; Carol Schmiedecke, Alto; & Emma Schmiedecke, Cello

Expressions of Faith through Stained Glass and First Pres History

Musical Offering – *God is My Rock* – John D. Horman

Chancel Choir

Prelude

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun – arr. Ted Cornell

Linda Sweetman Waters, Piano

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Bruce Ballantine

Call to Worship

God gives us one day at a time:

Long enough for laughter to follow any tears;

Deep enough for prayer and silence to dance together;

Time enough to help someone in need;

Plenty of time to notice beauty and praise the Maker;

Sufficient time to build a bridge for forgiveness or tear down a wall of resentment;

The right time to embrace friends, smile at strangers and play with children.

Praise God for this day we are given.

Prayer of the Day

You have brought us, O God, to another Lord's Day, when we are privileged to worship you with our brothers and sisters in Christ. May we have unity of mind and heart as we open ourselves to the movement of your Holy Spirit. As you shower your grace upon us, and as your love grows within us, make us vessels of your grace and love to those we encounter in the worlds in which we live and move and have our being. We pray in Christ's name. **Amen.**

Psalter Reading – Psalm 145:1-8 – Joan Davies

Musical Offering – *Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit* – arr. Kathleen Wissinger

Music Staff Bells +1

Old Testament Reading – Jonah 3:10-4:11 – Joan Davies

Sermon – *God's Confounding Grace*



First Pres Ridgewood NJ
@FirstPres-RidgewoodNJ

Offering Invitation

Please venmo @FirstPres-RidgewoodNJ,
drop your offering in the plate on your way out,
or mail check to the church. Thank you!



venmo

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

In our trouble and need, we look to the Lord, the giver of our daily bread, saying:

God of abundant grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church. Show us what it means to be truly great - serving others in the name of Christ, welcoming each person as your beloved child.

God of abundant grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world. Empower strong and capable women and men to lead us in your ways of wisdom and truth, so that all people may flourish and thrive.

God of abundant grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this community. Put an end to conflicts and disputes among us; let us taste the fruits of righteousness and peace.

God of abundant grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our schools. As the new academic year begins, guide those who will continue to make decisions regarding in-person or online learning. We pray for students, teachers and staff, asking you to bless them with sound minds and healthy bodies. Free students from distraction; enable them to truly learn and flourish. Enable all who are taking exams to focus and do their best work.

God of abundant grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for loved ones. Remember those who are struggling with difficult decisions or deadly diseases; show them your wisdom, healing and joy.

God of abundant grace, **hear our prayer.**

Generous God, as you provide for us each day, nourish and strengthen us in faith and faithfulness, so that we may share your grace in a hungry world;
through Jesus Christ, the bread of life.

And now we are bold to pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

Benediction & Postlude

Vivace from Sonata, Opus 1, No. 3 – G.F. Handel
Linda Sweetman Waters, Organ

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.

