



## POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH

May 21, 2023

10:00 am

### Prelude

### Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

#### Call to Worship from Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills—  
where does my help come from?

**<sup>2</sup> My help comes from the LORD,  
the Maker of heaven and earth.**

**<sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot slip—  
he who watches over you will not slumber;**

**<sup>4</sup> indeed, he who watches over Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

**<sup>5</sup> The LORD watches over you—  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;**

**<sup>6</sup> the sun will not harm you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

**<sup>7</sup> The LORD will keep you from all harm—  
he will watch over your life;**

**<sup>8</sup> the LORD will watch over your coming and going  
both now and forevermore.**

Lord let our souls rise to meet you as the day rises to meet the sun.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to The Holy Spirit.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Opening Song: Blue #52**

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

#### Call to Confession

The Belhar Confession was written in South Africa in the 1980's and it is a call to the worldwide church to stand together for unity, reconciliation and justice. Say these words with me:

**The Living God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world; the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker.**

that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;

**that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged;**

that God calls the church to follow him in this, for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry.

**God, forgive us for our indifference, our lack of compassion, and our silence. Give us the eyes to see that we all share a common humanity. Help us to see people in their suffering, to have hearts for mercy and justice, and the will to make a difference.**

Lord, hear our prayer.

**Lord, have mercy.**

### **Words of Assurance**

Friends hear these Words of Assurance today:

God never stops working in our lives. He saved us and continues to save us. He restored us and continues to restore us. He continues to make our hearts more like his and always will. As the Apostle Paul said in Romans chapter 8, neither death nor life, neither height nor depth, neither the present nor the future, nor anything else in all of creation can separate us from his love.

Friends the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

### **Living the Way of Jesus** (From *The Message Version of 1 Corinthians 13*)

Once we understand that we are loved, then we can love. When we experience peace, then we can bring peace, and once we realize that we have received mercy, we can better show mercy.

This is what love looks like:

**Love never gives up.**

**Love cares more for others than for self.**

**Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.**

Love doesn't strut,

Doesn't have a swelled head,

Doesn't force itself on others,

Isn't always "me first,"

Doesn't fly off the handle,

Doesn't keep score of the sins of others,

Doesn't revel when others grovel,

**Love takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,**

**Puts up with anything,**

**Trusts God always,**

**Always looks for the best,**

**Never looks back,  
But keeps going to the end.  
Love never dies.**

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Chancel Choir Anthem**

“Come, Spirit, Come”

M. Beall

**Announcements**

**Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer**

**Offering**

**Offertory Song: Blue #808**

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

**Sermon: Expansive Love**

**Text: Ephesians 3:14-21**

<sup>14</sup> For this reason I kneel before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. <sup>16</sup> I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, <sup>17</sup> so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, <sup>18</sup> may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, <sup>19</sup> and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. <sup>20</sup> Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

**Prayers for Healing and Strength**

David	John	Nancy	Those dealing with illness
Gail	Carole	Charlie	Those who are grieving
Jim	Clarity	Thomas	
Bill	Armen		

*During the Healing Service, worshippers are invited to come forward to request prayers for themselves or loved ones. While the pastor or healing elder responds, elders will surround the sanctuary with prayer. At the conclusion of each prayer, a blessing is offered with anointing of oil.*

**Healing Song: Green #212**

“Spirit Song”

**Closing Song: Blue #532**

“Be Thou My Vision”

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Worship Leader: Pastor John Burden  
Liturgist: Sabine Kroeger  
Music Director: Patricia Kitchell  
Guest Organist: Scott Burzynski

### Streaming & Audio

Mark Warner  
Karen Huysers  
Gail Freeland

### Screen Visuals

Eddie Van Schaack

## 2023 CONSISTORY

### Deacons

Doreen Apgar  
Bruce Davis  
Keith Hanisch  
Nancy Shimmel  
Tina Thompson

### Elder Care Team

Sabine Kroeger	A-D	973-728-7460
Eva Terhune	E-L	973-835-6982
Drew Altorfer	M-Sc	973-975-3223
Mark Warner	Sh-Z	973-349-6539

If you are in need of prayer, spiritual support, have concerns about your faith journey or wish to discuss any other issue, we faithfully encourage you to reach out to your Elder representative.



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