

**Downtown Presbyterian Church
Order of Worship for June 14, 2020
Second Sunday after Pentecost**

Prelude

"Walk By Faith"
Sara Chang, Melissa DuPuy and Mike Wilson

Jeremy Camp

Welcome

Revs. Mike Wilson & Mary Louise McCullough

Call to Worship

Chris Leonard

"Abraham and Sarah at Mamre" by Malcolm Guite

*They practice hospitality; their hearts
Have opened like a secret source, free flowing
Only as they take another's part.
Stopped in themselves, and in their own unknowing,
But unlocked by these strangers in their need,
They breathe again, and courtesy, set free,
Begets the unexpected; generosity
Begetting generation, as the seed
Of promise springs and laughs in Sarah's womb.*

*Made whole by their own hospitality,
And like the rooted oak whose shade makes room
For this refreshing genesis at Mamre,
One couple, bringing comfort to their guests,
Becomes our wellspring in the wilderness.*

Hymn

"To Abraham and Sarah"
Janet Fey, cantor; Doug Murray, organ

Gathering Prayer

Kim McMullin

*Holy One, we are learning again that we will not save what we do not love,
and we will neither love nor save what we do not experience as sacred.
Try as we might, we cannot hold your sacramental vision
alongside hostility, apathy or fear in our hearts.
We chant the words, "No justice, no peace,"
and you call us deep within to ask ourselves,
do we see injustice as an indelible feature of our lives?
Or do we believe change is possible?
We live in a new moment.
Give us the courage to love in new ways.
Give us the commitment to help bring a new consciousness to birth in the world.*

(Silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace

Wyatt Skillen

*May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.*

Announcements

Children's Message

Suzie Lane and James Potts

Prayer for Illumination

Lesla Blackwell

Hebrew Scripture Reading

Genesis 18:1-15

The LORD appeared to Abraham at the oaks of Mamre while he sat at the entrance of his tent in the day's heat. He looked up and suddenly saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them, he ran from his tent entrance to greet them and bowed deeply. He said, "Sirs, if you would be so kind, don't just pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought so you may wash your feet and refresh yourselves under the tree. Let me offer you a little bread so you will feel stronger, and after that you may leave your servant and go on your way—since you have visited your servant."

They responded, "Fine. Do just as you have said."

So Abraham hurried to Sarah at his tent and said, "Hurry! Knead three seahs[a] of the finest flour and make some baked goods!" Abraham ran to the cattle, took a healthy young calf, and gave it to a young servant, who prepared it quickly. Then Abraham took butter, milk, and the calf that had been prepared, put the food in front of them, and stood under the tree near them as they ate.

They said to him, "Where's your wife Sarah?"

And he said, "Right here in the tent."

Then one of the men said, "I will definitely return to you about this time next year. Then your wife Sarah will have a son!"

Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were both very old. Sarah was no longer menstruating. So Sarah laughed to herself, thinking, I'm no longer able to have children and my husband's old.

The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Me give birth? At my age?' Is anything too difficult for the LORD? When I return to you about this time next year, Sarah will have a son."

Sarah lied and said, "I didn't laugh," because she was frightened.

But God said, "No, you laughed."

Epistle Reading

Romans 5:1-8

Jack Henderson

Therefore, since we have been made righteous through [Christ's] faithfulness, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We have access by faith into this grace in which we stand through him, and we boast in the hope of God's glory. But not only that! We even take pride in our problems, because we know that trouble produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope. This hope doesn't put us to shame, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

While we were still weak, at the right moment, Christ died for ungodly people. It isn't often that someone will die for a righteous person, though maybe someone might dare to die for a good person. But God shows his love for us, because while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

Sermon

Revs. Mary Louise McCullough & Mike Wilson

Anthem

“Psalm 100”

Henry V. Gerike

William Taylor, organist; Combined Choirs

Jeffrey Williams, Nina Cardona, Emlyn O’Regan, Janet Fey and Jen Peterson Morley, soloists

*May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us.**Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.**Serve the Lord with gladness. Come into his presence with singing.**Know that the Lord, he is God. It is he who made us and we are his.**We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.**Give thanks to him and bless his name.**For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever**and his faithfulness to all generations.**Glory be 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.*

— Psalm 67:1; 100:1-5

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Revs. Nolan Huizenga and Mike Wilson

*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.***Hymn**

“We Praise You, O God”

Ryan Norris, cantor

Charge and Benediction**Closing Voluntary**Improvised Prelude and Fugue on *Llangloffan*
 (“When Abraham and Sarah”)

Douglas Murray

We are grateful to everyone who helped make today’s service possible:

Everyone listed above

Downtown Presbyterian choir members: Dixie Williamson, Jen Peterson Morley, Anne Landis Jetton, Amy Finka, Nina Cardona, Jodie O’Regan, Edward Cardona, Emlyn O’Regan, and William Taylor.*Second Presbyterian choir members:* George Blue, John McClure, Aimee Moiso, Greg Gunther, Janet Fey, Jeff Williams and Sara Chang.

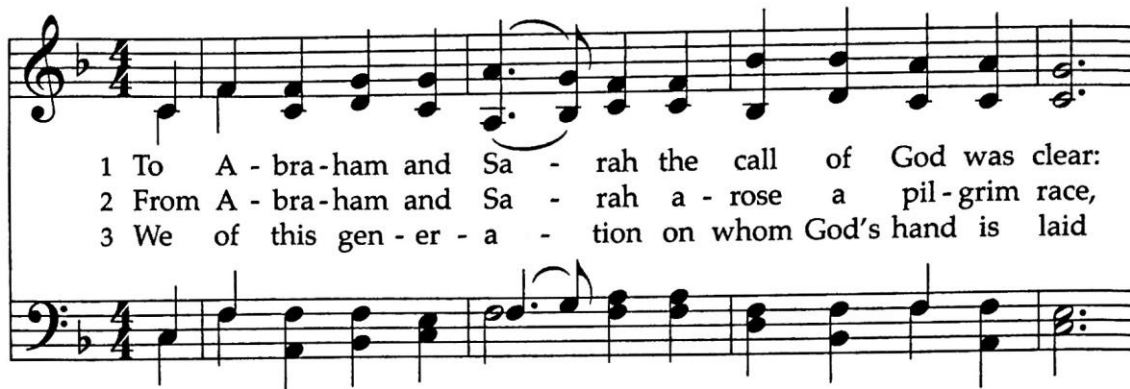
Directors of Music Jeanette MacCallum and William Taylor

Mike Wilson who assembled and synchronized the anthem from 17 separate recordings.

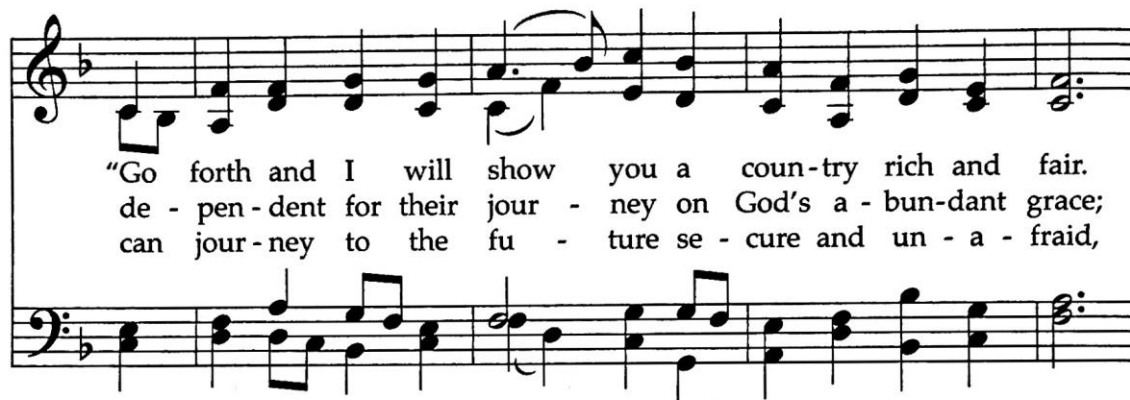
Nolan Huizenga who edited and assembled the final worship video from *many* (many) individual parts

To Abraham and Sarah

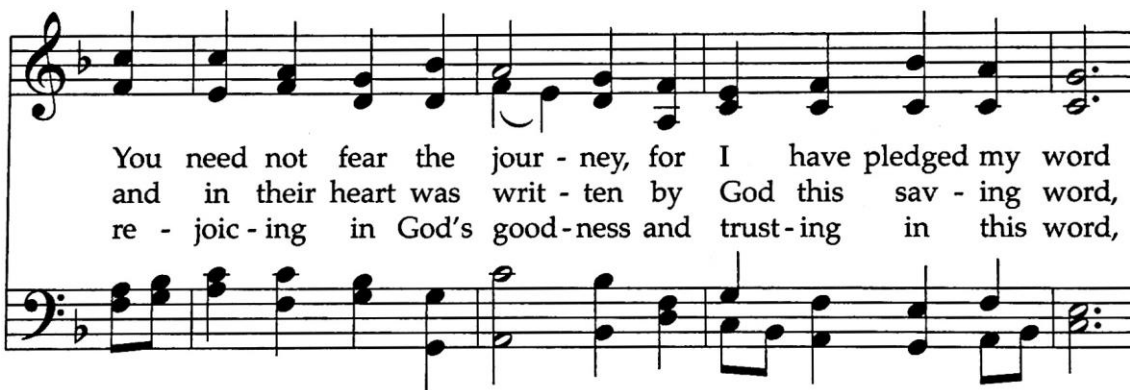
I Will Be Your God



1 To A - bra - ham and Sa - rah the call of God was clear:
2 From A - bra - ham and Sa - rah a - rose a pil - grim race,
3 We of this gen - er - a - tion on whom God's hand is laid



"Go forth and I will show you a coun - try rich and fair.
de - pen - dent for their jour - ney on God's a - bun - dant grace;
can jour - ney to the fu - ture se - cure and un - a - fraid,



You need not fear the jour - ney, for I have pledged my word
and in their heart was writ - ten by God this sav - ing word,
re - joic - ing in God's good - ness and trust - ing in this word,



that you shall be my peo - ple and I will be your God."
"That you shall be my peo - ple and I will be your God."
"That you shall be my peo - ple and I will be your God."

This hymn condenses the narrative of Genesis 17:1-22 and grounds it in the recurring statement of the covenant relationship between God and the people God has chosen. This Welsh tune also occurs in a minor version called LLANGLOFFAN, used elsewhere in this hymnal (see no. 362).

We Praise You, O God



1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and moth - ers;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.
and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.



we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
To you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

The author wrote this text when only nineteen years old in response to a request from the organist of the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City, who wanted another Thanksgiving text to sing to this Dutch tune. He regarded the usual text (see no. 336) as too full of conflict.