



# Sunset Hills United Presbyterian Church

900 Country Club Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228  
[www.shupchurch.org](http://www.shupchurch.org)

10:15 am WORSHIP  
June 13, 2021

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

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## ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

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Prelude

Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Prayer of Preparation

\*Call to Worship (from Northumbria Community)

Liturgist: Kara Burian

**Leader:** My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for You, O God.

**People:** **You pour life into me, giving me speech, sense, desire, giving me thought and action. My fame or repute will be just as You allow; You mark the way before me.**

**Leader:** As I remember saints who have journeyed before me, Lord, teach me the way of their simplicity; strengthen me with humility, at peace in the fear of God. May I also go where I am led.

**People:** **The keeping of Christ about me, the guarding of Christ with me to possess me, to protect me from danger and loss, the gospel of God of grace from brow of head to sole of foot, the gospel of Christ, King of salvation, be as a mantle to my body.**

Hymn: *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* (Sung by the SHUP Congregation)

Come, Christians, join to sing, Alleluia! Amen!  
Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!  
Let all, with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;  
Praise is his gracious choice, Alleluia! Amen!  
Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!  
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!  
He is our guide and friend, to us He'll condescend;  
His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!

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\*Call to Confession

Now let us come before the throne of grace, confessing our sins before God and one another. Let us pray together the prayer of confession.

\*Unison Prayer of Confession (from the Northumbria Community)

**O King of Kings, O King of the universe, King who will be, who is, may You forgive us each and every one. Accept my prayer, O King of grace. Anyone who claims to be in the light, but hates his brother or sister, is still in the darkness. Lower my vengeance, my anger and my hatred, and banish my wicked thoughts from me; send down a drop from heaven of Your Holy Spirit to vanquish this heart of rock of mine.**

(Silent Confession)

**In Christ we pray. Amen.**

\*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Love the Lord, all God's saints! Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

\*Response: *Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.

\*The Passing of the Peace, American Sign Language

Speaker: Peace be with you.

Respond: And also with you.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

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New Testament Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

<sup>2</sup>I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— <sup>4</sup>and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. <sup>7</sup>And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; <sup>9</sup>but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup>For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

Leader: The Word of the Lord!

Children's Message

Beth Romig

Sermon: *In Praise of Thorns*

Rev. Susan Rothenberg

Anthem: *He Put a New Song in My Heart* (Sung by the SHUP Choir)

J. Martin

**He put a new song in my heart,  
A hymn of praise to the Lord and King.  
He put a new song in my heart to praise His holy name.  
I will sing to the Lord.  
(Repeat)**

Oh, I will rest and put my trust in you,  
For you have given me my heart's desire.  
O God, your wonders no one can number,  
Blessings too great for my heart to hold.

**He put a new song in my heart,  
A hymn of praise to the Lord and King.  
He put a new song in my heart to praise His holy name.  
I will sing to the Lord.  
(Repeat)**

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Joys & Concerns

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Presenting Gifts, Tithes and Offerings

Beth Romig

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Response: *Doxology*

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## DEPARTING TO SERVE

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Hymn: *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less* (Sung by SHUP Congregation)

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

**Chorus:**

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.**

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

**Chorus:**

His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the whelming flood;  
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

**Chorus:**

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\*Benediction

\*Response

\*Postlude

*\*If you are able to do so, please stand.*

**A Special Thank You** to Rev. Susan Rothenberg for leading us in worship today. Rev. Susan Rothenberg is a minister member of Pittsburgh Presbytery, and serves in a validated ministry as a church consultant with the Unglued Church Project and Pneumatrix. In her current call, she teaches adaptive change skills to churches seeking to be faithful to Christ's call in a rapidly changing culture. She currently serves on the presbytery's Committee on Representation, Nominating Committee, and the Antiracism Team. She and her husband Mitchell have two children — Rachel, who is a Ph.D. student at U. of Washington, and David, who will be a sophomore at Purdue University this fall. Susan grew up in Uniontown, Pa. and is a descendent of many ornery Scots-Irish Presbyterians!

**Happy Birthday** to Rev. Laura Strauss (14<sup>th</sup>), Debbie Vernacchio (14<sup>th</sup>), Andrew Glantz (17<sup>th</sup>), Linda MacDonald (17<sup>th</sup>) & Jane Huston (19<sup>th</sup>)!

**The Chancel Flowers** have been given today by Blanning, Ross & Colby families in loving memory of Alleyne & Joseph Blanning.

**The Flower Delivery** will be made by Deacons Maralee Williams and Jenn Kennedy.

**Stephen Ministers** offer caring, Christian friendship and concerned listening to people when they need it the most. SHUP has five (5) trained Stephen Ministers; Evelyn Lape, Karen Heim, Carole McCullough, Laura Flaus & Ginny Bowman. If you would like to talk to a Stephen Minister, please contact Evelyn Lape at 412-531-9856.

**Hospital visits** by Pastor Laura can be scheduled through the church office. If you or someone you know is having surgery or is in the hospital, please let us know so that Pastor Laura can be there to visit and pray with you and your loved ones.

### **PRAYER LIST**

**Prayer Circle** - The Sembrat Family; Matt, Brienne, Colby & Ty and Robert Shetler

**June** - Pat Patterson

**May** - Bob Shetler, Therese Hudak, Carl Moeller, The family of Virginia Jones, The Hall Family (Sean, Andrea & Hannah), Mary Abbott

**Ongoing** - Nancy Brumfield, Eneless Frank, Mya Kelly, Joanna, Becca, our Mission Co-Workers: Rev. Mark Adams & Miriam Maldonado Escobar and their children; Cindy Anna Flor & Nathan who serve at the U.S.-Mexico Border, our sister church, Litchenza CCAP in Malawi, Africa, Pabatso Makhalanyane, Healthcare and all Essential Workers

### **Year of the Bible Readings**

June 13<sup>th</sup> - 1 Chronicles 17, 18/Galatians 1

June 17<sup>th</sup> - 1 Chronicles 28, 29/Psalms 70, 71

June 14<sup>th</sup> - 1 Chronicles 19-21/Psalm 69

June 18<sup>th</sup> - 2 Chronicles 1, 2/Galatians 4

June 15<sup>th</sup> - 1 Chronicles 22, 23/Galatians 2

June 19<sup>th</sup> - 2 Chronicles 3-5/Galatians 5

June 16<sup>th</sup> - 1 Chronicles 24-27/Galatians 3

June 20<sup>th</sup> - 2 Chronicles 6, 7/Galatians 6



## WELCOME TO SUNSET HILLS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

### CONNECT with us!

Phone: 412-561-6261

Office hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30am-2:30pm

Address: 900 Country Club Dr. Pgh, PA 15228

Pastor: Rev. Laura E. Strauss

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. William Gracey

Website: [www.shupchurch.org](http://www.shupchurch.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/shupchurch/>

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### Sun. June 13

8:30 am Adult Sunday School - Zoom

10:15 am Worship - Sanctuary

### Mon. June 14

1:00 pm Findley Hall Bible Study - Zoom

### Wed. June 16

4:30 pm Kid's Club - Findley Hall

### Sun. June 20

8:30 am Adult Sunday School - Zoom

10:15 am Worship - Sanctuary/Guest  
Preacher Rev. Brian Wallace

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ **Pastor Laura:** Pastor Laura will be out of the office through June 21<sup>st</sup> to continue her studies for her Doctor of Ministry Program.
- ❖ **Chancel Flowers:** If you would like to sponsor the Chancel flowers for our Sunday service, July 4<sup>th</sup>, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> dates are available. There are two bouquets every Sunday (\$25 each). Please contact the church office if you are interested in filling any of these dates.
- ❖ **Findley Hall Bible Study:** The class will continue the study of “Think Like Jesus” by Randy Frazee. Please watch the 7<sup>th</sup> video on Study Gateway before class. If you would like more information about this study, please contact Evelyn Lape at (412) 531-9856.
- ❖ **Memorial for Bill Newman:** The family of Bill Newman (husband of Nancy) will be holding a Memorial and Visitation on Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. The service and “sharing time” will be held from 11:00 am - noon and visitation will be from noon until 4:00 pm. Events will be held at the Community Center in the Cranmoor Community, West McMurray Road, Canonsburg, PA 15317. Please feel free to contact Carrie (Newman) Gentile at (724)263-5358 for additional information.
- ❖ **Food Truck Event:** Join us for our Food Truck event on Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm in the church parking lot. We will have three food trucks; Gyros N’ at, TOTOPO Mexican Kitchen and Kona Ice as well as a Mt. Lebanon Fire Truck join us for the festivities.
- ❖ **Mission Opportunity -South Hills Interfaith Movement (SHIM) Do More Good Campaign:** SHIM has been engaged in a capital campaign to make improvements to programs, infrastructure, and staff. They have already raised \$5.4 million with a goal of \$6 million. Can you help them reach their goal? Please visit their website at [www.shimcares.org](http://www.shimcares.org) or contact Seth Dubin at (412)854-9120 ext. 109 or [sdubin@shimcares.org](mailto:sdubin@shimcares.org) if you would like to help.

