

Dial- 669 900 9128
Meeting ID 831 688 4211
Password 9850
Use *6 to unmute your phone

Meeting Time
Sunday at 10:30 Worship

We are glad that you are worshipping online with us this morning and pray that your experience here is a blessing to you. If you are a visitor and want to know more about the church, please visit our website for more information and to contact us: www.aptospresbyterianchurch.org

Welcome and Announcement

Call to Worship (Responsive) Psalm 9:1-2

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart;

I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.

I will be glad and exult in you;

I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

LET US WORSHIP GOD!

*Hymn 338

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

***O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!***

***America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!***

***O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw;
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law!***

***O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! May God thy gold refine
till all success be nobleness and every gain divine!***

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

O Holy One, we call to you and name you as eternal, ever-present, and boundless in love. Yet there are times, O God, when we fail to recognize you in the dailiness of our lives. Sometimes shame clenches tightly around our hearts, and we hide our true feelings. Sometimes fear makes us small, and we miss the chance to speak from our strength. Sometimes doubt invades our hopefulness, and we degrade our own wisdom. Holy God, in the daily round from sunrise to sunset, remind us again of your holy presence hovering near us and in us. Free us from shame and self-doubt. Help us to see you in the moment-by-moment possibilities to live honestly, to act courageously, and to speak from our wisdom.

(Time for silent reflection)

Assurance of Grace - based on Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. **AMEN**

Response

"Glory Be To The Father"

Special Music

"Overture" by Johann Faber

Recorder Trio: Eileen Mihm,
Carolyn Crocker, & Coty Catlin

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

"Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"

*Hymn 275

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.

Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.

*His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.*

*Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.*

*Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he. Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.*

*Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he. Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.*

The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him.

His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure.

One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.

The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.

Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.

The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still.

His kingdom is forever.

Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. In the midst of the multitude of words in our daily lives, speak your eternal Word to us, that we may respond to your gracious promises with faithfulness, service and love. Amen.

First Lesson:

2 Kings 2:1-15

¹Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³ The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

⁴ Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here, for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. ⁵ The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

⁶ Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷ Fifty men of the company of prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸ Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰ He responded, "You have asked a hard thing, yet if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹ As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹² Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

¹³ He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. ¹⁴ He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water. He said, "Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah? Where is he?" He struck the water again, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha crossed over.

¹⁵ When the company of prophets who were at Jericho saw him at a distance, they declared, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." They came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

Second Lesson:

John 17:20-26

²⁰ "I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵ "Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them."

Sermon

"Love In Transition"

Rev. Anne McAnelly

*Affirmation (Unison)

We believe that God has come to us; that God brought us into being, that this God gave us breath and purpose, that we have been blessed to be a blessing to others, that we have fallen short of this commandment but that God has nevertheless loved us despite our brokenness.

We believe that God is coming to us; that God is not happy to leave us alone, that this God will come to us as a particular human being, that God will be made known to us in flesh and bone like ours, that Mary will give birth and Joseph will clap his hands in joy, that Jesus Christ will be born and our salvation made complete.

We believe that God will come to us; that God will have the final word and that Word will be good, that this God will give us the presence of the Spirit to continue our work, that we are called to be disciples to all the corners of the earth, that the day is coming when tears and pain will be no more, and all will gather at the Table to sing an endless and perfect "Alleluia!"

Offertory

"March" by Johann Faber

Recorder Trio: Eileen Mihm,
Carolyn Crocker, & Coty Catlin

Doxology

Offering Prayer (Unison)

God of all goodness and grace, receive the gifts we offer; and grant that our whole life may give you glory and praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn 321

"The Church's One Foundation"

*The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is his new creation by water and the word.*

*From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride.
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.*

*Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.*

*One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.*

*Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,*

*Yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.*

*Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore:*

*Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.*

*Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:*

*O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.*

Benediction