



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

921 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10021 212-288-8920

www.mapc.com

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2017 at 9 and 11:15 am

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Word and Sacrament

Please silence your cellular telephones and other electronic devices.

We encourage you to begin this time of worship in silent prayer.

Prayer of Preparation

Grant unto us, O God, the fullness of your promises. Where we have been weak, grant us your strength; where we have been confused, grant us your guidance; where we have been distraught, grant us your comfort; where we have been fearful, grant us your courage; where we have been dead, grant us your life; where we have known tragedy, bring us your healing. Apart from you, O Lord, we are nothing, but in and with you, even evil is transformed into your good purposes. Amen.

PRELUDE

Cantilène

Jean Langlais

(from *Suite Brève*, 1947)

(1907-1991)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Eric O. Springsted

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: In your steadfast love you led the people whom you redeemed;

People: You guided them by your strength to your holy abode.

Pastor: The Lord is my strength and my song,

People: The Lord has become my salvation.

Pastor: In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

People: Let us worship God.

*Let all who are able stand.

*HYMN 298

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

In Babilone

CONFESSION OF SIN (*unison*)

Beverly A. Bartlett

Almighty and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

(Silence for personal confession)

LORD, HAVE MERCY (*Service in G*)

John Weaver



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: ... Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Ave Virgo Virginum

Come, ye faith-ful, raise the strain Of tri-um-phant glad-ness;
 God hath brought forth Is-ra-el In-to joy from sad-ness;
 Loosed from Phar-ah's bit-ter yoke Ja-cob's sons and daugh-ters;
 Led them, with un-moist-ened foot, Through the Red Sea wa-ters.

Text: John of Damascus (c.675-749); trans. John Mason Neale, 1859
 Music: *Bohemian Brethren's Gesangbuch*, 1544

*SUMMARY OF THE LAW

*PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor: Since we have been reconciled to God in Jesus Christ,
 let us be reconciled to one another.

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Greet one another with signs of Christ's peace.

*Please greet those around you with: "The peace of Christ be with you,"
 responding, "And also with you."*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Christina A. Cosby

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 14:19-31

(nrsv, page 58 OT)

*PSALM 114

Tours

1. When we came out of E-gypt, That strange and cru-el land, As
 2. The wa-ters saw you com-ing As we ap-proached the shore. They
 3. So trem-ble stone and wa-ter Be-fore your face, O Lord. You
 Ja-cob's own des-cen-dents, We left by your own hand. And
 fled to give us pas-sage, So too at Jor-dan's door. The
 turn the rocks to wa-ter, The stones deep pools af-ford. You
 you, Lord, came out with us To build your-self a home; A
 moun-tains leaped be-fore us Like young and vir-ile rams, The
 tra-vel still a-mong us To build your-self a home, To
 ho-ly, prized pos-ses-sion, A peo-ple for your own.
 hills skipped at our pas-sing, Like flocks of play-ful lambs.
 make us your pos-ses-sion, A peo-ple for your own.

Text: © Fred R. Anderson, 1997, all rights reserved
 Music: Berthold Tours, 1872

(Following the final stanza of the psalm, children and young people are invited to come forward, gathering around the Baptismal Font for the Lesson for Young Christians.)

**LESSON FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS &
DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S & YOUTH WORSHIP**

Dr. Springsted

Children's Worship – Children preschool through 3rd grade may exit to the Phillips Lounge.

Youth Worship – Young people 4th grade to 8th grade may exit to the Dana Chapel.

The Children & Youth return to the Sanctuary at the Doxology to participate in the rest of the service.

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 14:1-12
(nrsv, page 152 NT)

Ms. Bartlett

GRADUAL *(11:15 am)*

Andrew Henderson

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Give me understanding that I may live.
(Psalm 119:105, 107b)

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 18:21-35
(nrsv, page 19 NT)

Andrew D. Smothers

SERMON

“Keeping the Books Open”

Dr. Springsted

***HYMN 347**
(11:15 am)

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

Detroit

***THE NICENE CREED**

Ms. Bartlett

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 on 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Mr. Smothers

...Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Dr. Springsted

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (11:15 am)

From *Israel in Egypt*,
HWV 54 (1739)

George Frideric Handel
(1685-1759)

And Israel saw that great work that the Lord did upon the Egyptians;
and the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord and his servant Moses.

(Exodus 14:31)

*DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures
here be - low; Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(The table of our Lord Jesus Christ is open to all who are baptized. Those who do not wish to take Communion are invited to remain seated in prayer. You are asked to join in the responses as indicated.)

INVITATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

COMMUNION PRAYER

"...who forever sing to the glory of your name:"

SANCTUS

Weaver

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heaven and earth are
full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed, bless - ed is
He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

(Communion Prayer continues) "... the mystery of faith:"

ACCLAMATION

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

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.

BREAKING BREAD & SHARING THE CUP

Pastor: Gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Let us keep the feast.

DISTRIBUTION

When the pastors take their serving places, please come forward, using the center aisle, beginning with the front row. The white bread is made from wheat; darker bread in the center is gluten-free rice bread. The bronze chalices contain wine; the glass chalices contain grape juice. Hold out your hands, one open palm placed on the other, and bread will be placed in your hand. For rice bread, please take it yourself, exercising care not to touch other pieces. You may eat the bread and move to the cup of wine to drink or dip your bread before eating, or move to the cup of juice and dip your bread, exercising care not to touch the liquid or cup with your fingers. Those unable to come forward will be served in their pews. If not communing, please remain in your pew in prayer.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Lord, I Trust Thee
(from *Brockes Passion*)

George Frideric Handel
(1685-1759)

Lord, I trust thee, I adore thee.
Ah! Thou friend of all, restore me!
On thy loving grace relying,
For the Bread of life I'm sighing.
Quench my thirst and let my hunger cease,
Fill my heart with joy and endless peace.
When the breath of life has left me,
May my soul be blended with thee.

– *Barthold Brockes (1680-1747)*

CONGREGATIONAL SONG (11:15 am)

In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re -
joice. Look to God, do not be a - fraid: lift up your voi - ces, the
Lord is near; lift up your voi - ces, the Lord is near.

Jacques Berthier, *Songs and Prayers of Taizé*
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CLOSING PRAYER

*HYMN 442

The Church's One Foundation

Aurelia

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Dr. Springsted

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Weaver



*POSTLUDE

Finale Jubilante
(from *Five Pieces for Organ*, 1959)

Healey Willan
(1880-1968)

*The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God
in loving memory of
Joan Marki.*

Welcome! We're glad you've joined us for worship today. We pray that you experience Christ in our midst, and that his presence will sustain you in the week ahead. We invite you to place your name and contact information on one of the pew pads. If our pastors can assist you in some special way, indicate this in the space provided and they will be in touch with you. If you are considering becoming Christian or looking for a church home, our pastors would be delighted to talk with you about it.

Have children? Children and families are always welcome in the Sanctuary to worship. Children three and under may be taken to the Nursery on the 4th Floor or remain with their parents. The Narthex or the Children's Library, adjacent to the Sanctuary, are also available for families and have speakers that provide audio of the service.

MAPC Mission Statement

The mission of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church is to bring people into the transforming presence of Jesus Christ through worship, teaching the Word, Christian nurture, and ministry in and to the world. As Christ's ministers, our members are striving to build a community of God's love, justice and mercy, trusting God to lead us into faithfulness.

Pastoral Staff

The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted, *Interim Pastor*

The Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett, *Associate Pastor*

The Rev. Andrew D. Smothers, *Interim Associate Pastor*

The Rev. Paula V. Cooper, *Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellow (2017-2019)*

Dr. Andrew E. Henderson, *Director of Music & Organist*

Mary W. Huff, *Associate Director of Music*

Christina A. Cosby, *Director of Christian Formation*

Laura Graham, *Director of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church Day School*

The Rev. Dr. Richard W. Shoup, *Pastoral Counselor (212-628-1812)*

The Rev. Dr. Fred R. Anderson, *Pastor Emeritus*

Dr. John B. Weaver, *Director of Music & Organist Emeritus*