

Philippians

TO LIVE IS CHRIST



CALVARY
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

September 17th, 2023

Gathering

During the Prelude we invite you to greet one another with love outside the Chapel, and allow those within to meditate, pray or just listen.

Prelude “Amazing Grace” arr. by Jim Brinkman

Welcome

*Call to Worship

*congregation please stand in body or spirit

Leader: God is here! Let our worship begin.

People: **We worship you, almighty God. You alone deserve our praise.**

Leader: God, you are faithful and just. Your ways are sure and right.

People: **You are our shelter and our refuge. You are a friend to those in need.**

Leader: You, Lord, are holy. You are good. You are wise.

People: **You are merciful and loving. We worship you, almighty God!**

*Opening Hymn #483 “Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above”

Poem “This I Know” Poet Unknown

I do not know what next may come,
Across my pilgrim way;
I do not know this next year's road,
Nor see beyond today;
But this I know, my Saviour knows
The path I can not see;
And I can trust His wounded hand
To guide and care for me.

I do not know what may be mine
Of glowing skies' or rain;
I do not know what may befall
Of pleasure or of pain;
But this I know, my Father sends
My sunshine and my shade
And naught that comes from out His love,
Can make my soul afraid.

I do not know what may await,
Or what this next year brings,
But with a glad salute of faith
I hail its opening wings.
For this I know, that in my Lord
Shall all my need be met;
And I can trust the heart of Him
Who has not failed me yet.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, all we have and all we are is a gift from you, yet we often fail to acknowledge your presence and your grace in our lives. We prefer to take credit for what we do right, to blame others for what goes wrong, and to dismiss as insignificant our weaknesses, self-righteousness, and pride. We want to be regarded as being strong, rather than relying on your strength. We want to avoid hardship and trials rather than endure the suffering that molds godly character. We want to be in control rather than yield to you. We ask for your forgiveness. We confess that our stubbornness reveals our mistrust of both your goodness and your love. Grant us your mercy, we pray, and restore us to a right relationship with you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: The mercy of God has no beginning and no end but endures forever. Friends, receive the free gift of God's grace that is yours this day.

People: **Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Alleluia. Amen.**

*Music Response #2161 "To Know You More" vs. 3

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scriptures: Philippians 1:1-14, 20-30

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon “The Paradox of Confidence and Adversity”

*Hymn #2216 “When We Are Called to Sing Your Praise”

Time for Response to the Sermon

Joys and Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

Leader: Lord in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayers**

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Announcements

Sending

*Closing Hymn #341 “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!”

*Benediction

Postlude

Feel free to stand, chat and generally share in Fellowship as the Postlude sends us out into the world in Love.

We welcome all who worship with us this day. May you experience God’s presence and find inspiration for your journey of faith. This morning the leaders in worship are:

Rev. Michelle Fincher, Pastor; **Kent Lemburg**, Guest Musician;

Dale Vodehnal; Liturgist; **Ryan Hodel**, Zoom Host

Offering - *We collect the offering in the following ways:*

- 1. Leave your offerings and pledges in the offering plate at the entrance of the chapel;*
- 2. Make a one-time donation online through our website: calvarypresdenver.org;*
- 3. Set up a regular donation online through the website. Your financial generosity and gifts of time help make our ministry in the community vibrant!*