



# Nassau Presbyterian Church

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September 12, 2021 9:15 & 11:00 AM



# Gathering

God calls us together to offer praise, acknowledge sin,  
and celebrate our adoption as forgiven children.

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Prelude

When We Are In Deepest Need

J. S. Bach

## ♦ Call to Worship

Psalm 96 : 1–2

At the sign ♦ you may stand. Bold text is read in unison.

O sing to the Lord a new song;

**sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

Sing and give praise to God's name;

**tell the good news of salvation from day to day.**

## ♦ Opening Hymn O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Red Hymnal 610

## Prayer of Confession

**O Lord our God,**

**you call us to proclaim the gospel,**

**but we remain silent in the presence of evil.**

**You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,**

**but we are content to live in separation.**

**You call us to seek the good of all,**

**but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.**

**You call us to fight pretensions and injustice,**

**but we sit idly by,**

**endangering the lives of people far and near.**

**Forgive us, O Lord.**

**Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,**

**and give us the courage and strength**

**to be reconciled to others;**

**through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.**

## Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends in Christ, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

# Words of Welcome



## Proclaiming the Word

We encounter the Word in speech and song  
as we interpret and expound scripture.

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### Time with Children

9:15 Children may leave for Church School classes. Teachers and ushers can assist in finding classrooms. Some classes will gather outside as weather permits. 11:00 Children age three to grade three may leave for Worship Explorers. This class will gather outside as weather permits.

### Prayer for Illumination

**Loving God, fountain of every blessing,  
open us to your life-giving Word,  
and fill us with your Holy Spirit  
so that living water may flow through our hearts—  
a spring of hope for a thirsty world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### First Scripture Lesson

Matthew 6:7–24

NRSV

“When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

“Pray then in this way:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And do not bring us to the time of trial,

but rescue us from the evil one.

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

“No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

Second Scripture Lesson

Psalm 116

Blue Psalter 116 D

Sermon

The Inclining Ear of God

David A. Davis



## Thanksgiving

We respond by presenting our offerings, setting the table, lifting prayers, and praising the triune God.

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♦ Sermon Hymn I Love the Lord, Who Heard My Cry

Red Hymnal 799

◆ Affirmation of Faith

from A Brief Statement of Faith

**In life and in death we belong to God.  
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.  
We trust in Jesus Christ,  
fully human, fully God.  
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
preaching good news to the poor  
and release to the captives,  
teaching by word and deed  
and blessing the children,  
healing the sick  
and binding up the brokenhearted,  
eating with outcasts,  
forgiving sinners,  
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.  
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
Jesus was crucified,  
suffering the depths of human pain  
and giving his life for the sins of the world.  
God raised this Jesus from the dead,  
vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal.  
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks  
and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,  
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**



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## *Tending the Flock*

Deaths—

Delia Barreto, grandmother of Eric Barreto (Holley)  
and great-grandmother of Elena and Nico on  
September 3, 2021 in Isabela, Puerto Rico

Elizabeth Lea Winfrey Shindel, sister of Polly Griffin,  
aunt of Page Griffin (Piper), and great-aunt of Harper  
and Amelie on August 31, 2021 in O’Fallon, Illinois

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