



# Faith Des Peres

Presbyterian Church (USA)

Sunday Morning Worship

August 25, 2013

**FAITH DES PERES  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)**

ORDER FOR WORSHIP  
August 25, 2013  
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

**WE APPROACH GOD**

**Opening Voluntary**                      *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*                      arr. Douglas E. Wagner

**Call to Worship**

Leader: Sisters and brothers, rejoice.  
We live sustained by God's presence and love.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: As we mourn the wounds of God's children,

**People: God weeps with us.**

Leader: As we give thanks for brothers and sisters who have lived in faith,

**People: God gives thanks with us.**

Leader: As we struggle for justice,

**People: God struggles with us.**

Leader: As we strive for peace,

**People: God strives with us.**

Leader: As we work to build the beloved community,

**People: God works with us.**

Leader: As we offer our gifts to all,

**People: God blesses us.**

Leader: Sisters and brothers, rejoice.

**People: Sustained by God's presence and love we worship God.**

**Gathering Prayer**

**\*Opening Hymn 276**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

FAITHFULNESS

**\*Call to Confession**

God invites us to mutual love. But to find that mutuality, we must release our need for honor, and our desire for privilege. In humility let us seek forgiveness, trusting in the promises of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**\*Prayer of Confession**

*The musical responses (in italics) are sung to the tune DIX found at Hymn 473.*

Lord, all that we have is a gift from you, yet we do not live lives of gratitude. We ignore strangers and turn away from those in need.

*Faith begins by letting go, giving up what had seemed sure,  
Taking risks and pressing on, though the way feels less secure:  
Pilgrimage both right and odd, trusting all our life to God.*

We seek honor for ourselves and allow pride to take root in us. Forgive our foolish ways, O God, and restore us to you, that we may walk in the way of love.

*Faith endures by holding on, keeping mem'ry's roots alive  
So that hope may bear its fruit; promise-fed, our souls will thrive,  
Not through merit we possess, but by God's great faithfulness.*

**\*Declaration of Forgiveness**

Beloved, your sins are forgiven, for God promises to never leave us. Therefore, be at peace and stand secure in the Lord.

*Faith matures by reaching out, stretching minds, enlarging hearts,  
Sharing struggles, living prayer, binding up the broken parts:  
Till we find the commonplace ripe with witness to God's grace.*

**\*Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you!

People: **And also with you!**

Leader: Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

**\*Joyful Response**

*Great Is the Lord*



Great is the Lord, he is ho-ly and just; by his pow-er we trust in his love. —



Great is the Lord, he is faith ful and true; by his mer-cy he proves he is love. —



Great is the Lord and wor-thy of glo - ry! Great is the Lord and wor-thy of praise.



Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great \_\_\_\_\_ is the



Lord! \_\_\_\_\_ Great \_\_\_\_\_ is the Lord!

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Lesson**

Isaiah 40:1-5

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Special Music**

*I Love You, Lord*  
Rachel Neuner, soloist

arr. Lloyd Larson

**New Testament Readings**

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Luke 17:5-10

**Sermon**

“Keep the Faith”

Rev. Dr. Anne Epling

**A Covenant Prayer of Recommitment to Justice**

Reader: O God, who has created your children to be free, we attest in word and deed that you are our God and we are your people. From our earliest days as the people whom you intend to be free, O God, you have called us forth from self-seeking bondage, comfort, complacency, and complaint, to freeing and redeeming action for justice everywhere in the world.

**People: You are our freeing God, and we would be your free and freeing people.**

Reader: O God of Exodus and the Burning Bush, of the Prophets and of Jesus, we hear your powerful calling to be your servants in the service of all those who are oppressed. At every turn we hear your voice in the cries of the poor, the hungry, the imprisoned, and the broken, for you made yourself one with those who seek justice, freedom, and peace. We share a vision, a promise, and a yearning for the day of your reign, O God.

**People: You are our servant God, and we would be your serving people.**

Reader: O God, Our Sustainer, search our hearts and reveal to us our sinfulness, all the ways that we contribute to injustice and to self-destroying bondage. Give us deep courage to find the true path of your way, ready to give our very selves as living sacrifices for your will. We have heard your calling. Hear us now as we make our pledge. *(All rise, if able)*

**People: You are our God and we are your people. We pledge ourselves now to pursue relentlessly that living, breathing justice which transforms persons and peoples. To your will for justice we recommit ourselves and pledge ourselves, our funds, our actions. Through Christ we pray. Amen.**

**\*Hymn 563**

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

LIFT EVERY VOICE

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

### Pastoral Prayer

#### Silent Prayer

#### Prayers of Petition

#### Pastoral Prayer and 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.*

### Offering Our Gifts to God *(Please sign the friendship pad.)*

#### Offertory Music

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

arr. Mark Hayes

#### \*Dedication of Gifts

"Doxology"

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

#### \*Prayer of Dedication


## WE DEPART TO SERVE

#### \*News of the Church

#### \*Closing Hymn

*Dream On, Dream On*

DREAM ON



1. Dream on, dream on, child - ren of peace;  
2. Hope on, hope on, Eas - ter peo - ple;  
3. Mount up, mount up, like an ea - gle,



till beyond on earth God's king - dom come.  
to the the cross, a dawn - ing sun.  
to the heights be - yond the clouds.

Wolf and lamb will feed to geth er,  
 Christ our peace, broke down all bar riers,  
 Strife and sor row, shall not stop you;

lions like ox - en will eat straw.  
 na - tion, and cul - ture, tribe and clan.  
 pain and tears shall lose their pow - er.

Dust shall be the ser - pents food, they shall not hurt or des - troy.  
 Re - con - cil - ing us to God, Christ made us one hu - man race,  
 Ev - en though the young may stum - ble, God the Lord re - news their strength.

Child - ren of earth and in all co - lours,  
 joined in peace and li - ber - a - tion,  
 They shall run and not grow wea - ry,

live in peace and har - mo - ny.  
 led by jus - tice, and hope and love.  
 they shall walk and shall not faint.

**\*Benediction**

**\*Closing Voluntary**

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

arr. John A. Behnke

## Childcare

Children are always welcome in worship at Faith Des Peres. Childcare with professional caregivers is available on Sunday mornings. The Nursery is located upstairs in the Education Building, which can be accessed through the doors at the front of the church.

### THE WEEK'S CALENDAR:

<b>Sun, 08/25</b>	10:00 am-Noon	<b>Childcare</b>
	10:30 am	<b>Worship</b>
	11:30 am	<b>Coffee and Fellowship</b>
	12:00 pm	<b>Older &amp; Wiser Lunch</b>
<b>Wed, 08/28</b>	9:30 am	<b>Presbyterian Women Bible Study</b>
	7:30 pm	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Sun, 09/01</b>	10:30 am	<b>Worship at the Old Meeting House</b>
	11:30 am	<b>Coffee and Fellowship</b>

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Rev. Dr. Anne B. Epling, Pastor

Dr. Gay Holmes Spears, Director of Music & Organist