



**AUGUST 15, 2021 AT 8:30 A.M.**

# **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**WORSHIP IN THE PARK | 12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

## **Gathering & Greeting**

*(moment for silent reflection)*

## **Call to Worship**

**Hymn #174** | “Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom”

## **Prayer of Confession & Forgiveness**

Merciful God, we confess that we have not been faithful children. We have not lived by your law; we have remained silent in the face of evil; we have not refrained from deceit; we have not followed the way of peace; and we have not honored all that is true and good. We have been foolish, and resisted the holy wisdom you offer. Forgive us, O God, and lead us in your paths of peace through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you all!  
*And also with you!*

**Scripture Readings | Proverbs 9:1-6 | John 6:51-58**

## **Message**

**Offering #738** | “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

## **Prayers of the People & 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.

**Hymn #366** | “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

## **Blessing**

# Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom 174



1 Come and seek the ways of Wis-dom, she who danced when  
 2 Lis - ten to the voice of Wis-dom, cry - ing in the  
 3 Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture all who



earth was new. Fol - low close - ly what she teach - es,  
 mar - ket - place. Hear the Word made flesh a - mong us,  
 seek re - birth. Spir - it - guide and close com - pan - ion,



for her words are right and true. Wis - dom clears the  
 full of glo - ry, truth, and grace. When the word takes  
 bring to light our sa - cred worth. Free us to be -



path to jus - tice, show - ing us what love must do.  
 root and rip - ens, peace and righ - teous - ness em - brace.  
 come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.

Drawing on numerous scriptural images of Wisdom (Greek: *Sophia*), especially in Proverbs, this text offers an alternative perspective on Trinitarian theology. The Wisdom tradition has played a role in Christian mysticism for centuries, as witnessed by the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.

## 738 O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee  
2 Help me the slow of heart to move  
3 Teach me thy pa - tience, still with thee  
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray

in low - ly paths of ser - vice free;  
by some clear, win - ning word of love;  
in clos - er, dear - er com - pa - ny,  
far down the fu - ture's broad - ening way;

tell me thy se - cret; help me bear the  
teach me the way - ward feet to stay, and  
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in  
in peace that on - ly thou canst give, with

strain of toil, the fret of care.  
guide them in the home - ward way.  
trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.  
thee, O Mas - ter, let me live.

In honestly admitting the limits of human ability, this prayerful hymn does not seek a sense of God's presence for self-comfort but for strength and companionship in pursuing the tasks that God sets before us. The author specifically chose this tune to accompany his words.

## 366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to  
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery  
 3 Come, Al - mighty - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy  
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;  
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.