

PRELUDE	<i>All Praise to Thee</i> Kerry Johnson, piano	SINE NOMINE
WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES		Trey Davis
*CALL TO WORSHIP	<i>When in Our Music God is Glorified</i> Choir only <i>When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, It is as though the whole creation cried Alleluia! Alleluia!</i>	ENGELBERG
	All How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, As worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia! Alleluia! Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing always Alleluia! Alleluia!	
*INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER		Linda Broughman, Deacon
*PASSING OF THE PEACE		Linda Broughman
RESPONSIVE READING	<i>from Job 16-17</i> My spirit is broken, my days are cut short, the grave awaits me. Surely mockers surround me; my eyes must dwell on their hostility. Give me, O God, the pledge you demand. My eyes have grown dim with grief; my whole frame is but a shadow. The upright are appalled at this; the innocent are aroused against the ungodly. Nevertheless, the righteous will hold to their ways. My days have passed, my plans are shattered. Yet the desires of my heart turn night into day; in the face of the darkness light is near. May my cry never be laid to rest! Even now my witness is in heaven; my advocate is on high. On behalf of a man he pleads with God as one pleads for a friend.	Linda Broughman
REFLECTION	<i>A Soul Laid Bare</i>	Trey Davis
MUSICAL MEDITATION	<i>Let Your Heart Hold Fast</i> Amy Kemp, soprano The inspiration for the virtual choir [in "Let Your Heart Hold Fast"] came from a live version of Pete Seeger singing "We Shall Overcome." It's amazing because Pete's voice is hard to hear due to the audience singing with him. Music should remind us we're not alone and what better way than to have people sing with you? —Jon Black, American songwriter ¹	J. Black
PRAYER OF SOLACE		Kevin Parker

SCRIPTURE READING	<i>Matthew 7:24-29; 1 Corinthians 3:10-11</i>	Kevin Parker
	LEADER: These are the scriptures of God for the people of Christ. PEOPLE: May the Spirit grant us understanding.	
REFLECTION	<i>The Waltz & the Wave</i>	Trey Davis
*HYMN 511	<i>The Solid Rock</i> Choir only verses 1&2; please stand and sing verses 3&4 with choir The parable about the security of building a house on rock, as opposed to sand...and setting to a simple, repetitious, foot-stomping tune have merged to form a hymn of faith that over the generations has proved useful and comforting to many in their daily spiritual journey. —Carlton Young, hymn editor ²	SOLID ROCK
PRAYER OF GRATITUDE		Teresa Wheeler
SCRIPTURE READING	<i>Romans 5:1-5; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18</i>	Teresa Wheeler
	LEADER: These are the scriptures of God for the people of Christ. PEOPLE: May the Spirit grant us understanding.	
REFLECTION	<i>The Extraordinary Uplifting Effect</i>	Trey Davis
MUSICAL MEDITATION	<i>O-o-h Child</i> Kerry Johnson, tenor "O-o-h Child" achieves its extraordinary uplifting effect by starting with the chorus and adding multiple key changes to create a funky, sunshine gospel song about hope. Alohe Burke's sultry alto anchors the song, and though the childlike voices of brothers Clarence Jr., James, Denis, and Keni are individually unremarkable, together they are utterly disarming, and they all come together for one of pop's most affecting climaxes. It's as if the dreams and gains of the Civil Rights movement got condensed into three minutes of radiant joy. —Barry Walters, music critic ³	S. Vincent
PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION		Trey Davis
*HYMN 122	<i>O God, Our Help in Ages Past</i>	ST. ANNE
*BENEDICTION		Trey Davis
*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE	<i>All Creatures of Our God and King</i> <i>All creatures of our God and King lift up your voice and with us sing Alleluia! Alleluia!</i> <i>Thou burning soul with golden beam Thou sliver moon with softer gleam O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!</i>	LASST UNS ERFREUEN
POSTLUDE	<i>Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken</i>	AUSTRIAN HYMN
	<i>*please stand as you are able</i>	

¹<https://americansongwriter.com/song-premier-fort-atlantic-let-your-heart-hold-fast/>

²<https://www.umdiscipleship.org/resources/history-of-hymns-my-hope-is-built>

³<https://pitchfork.com/features/lists-and-guides/9935-the-200-best-songs-of-the-1970s/?page=4>

Foushee Update: We are glad to share that our family is back safe and sound in Kanazawa after spending the summer in America. The time away from our daily work here allowed for wonderful visits with partner congregations, quality time with family and friends, and needed rest. Your prayers sustained us throughout these travels and lifted up those who carried on the work in Japan. For this we are grateful.

Our goal is to visit partner congregations in America every two to three years. We seek to offer gratitude for prayers and financial gifts and also share about how God is at work in Japan. Though social media helps to ease the divide, this gap in our physical presence leaves us with snapshots in our minds of people and places from our most recent meetings. Yet, as we all know, life moves on and, for us, the memories we hold are not the realities we witness upon our return.

On the bright side of things, there is the excitement of newness when we return. Family introduce us to babies, friends share about developments in their careers and family lives, foodies take us out to try the next culinary delight, and congregations enthusiastically tell us about ways they are **engaging their communities in discipleship and mission service.**

However, there are also struggles and losses that occur in our time away. Aging loved ones leave us with questions about our roles in supporting them from afar in the years ahead, health issues restrict the abilities of people who have poured their lives into us and the work they have been called to, and there are more empty pews in many churches than the last time we visited.

When we step into these snapshots, reality looks different than the picture we hold in our memories. However, after the challenges of gathering during the pandemic, we give thanks that we get to experience these moments at all. A proverb associated with Japanese tea ceremony is "ichigo ichie" meaning "one time, one meeting" or "for this time only". It calls us to live with intention and treasure each moment because the current moment can never be replicated in exactly the same way. These moments that we get with loved ones will never look the same. They are once in a lifetime.

It is our prayer that we all live with anticipation of the holy encounters that the Lord provides as we walk together as fellow pilgrims on the journey of faith.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Church Members: (*new addition)

Phil Dickens*	Patricia Lynn
Betty Duke	Linda Pleasants
Bob & Jane Edwards	Helen Prevette
Joe Ellen	Vic Rackley
Martha Flynn	

Family and Friends:

Linda Creech (mother of Paige Kay)
 Joel & Allison Cresimore
 Linda DeSchreiver (niece of Jane Edwards)
 Virginia Herran (sister of Jo Cresimore)
 John & Jennifer LeMay (daughter and son-in-law of Jo Cresimore)
 Ashley Lynn (niece of Patricia Lynn)
 Marygena Lynn (sister-in-law of Patricia Lynn)
 Martha Marcom (cousin of Patricia Lynn)
 Tommy Jenkins (former member)
 Jimmy Collier (friend of Ray Craver)
 Patti Lingafelt* (former member)

NOTE: There will be a called business meeting following the morning worship service next Sunday (Sept. 17) for the election of deacons and to approve the Nominating Committee's report.

DEACON OF THE DAY

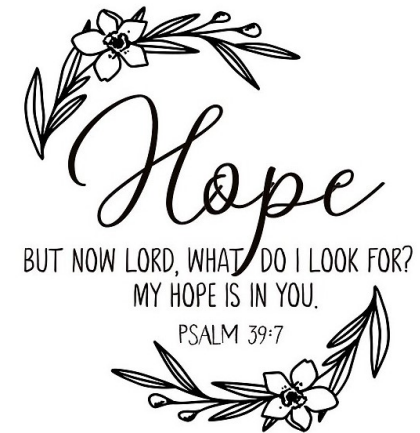
Today.....Linda Broughman
 Next Week (Sept. 17).....Jo Cresimore

GIVING

Easy, Secure **Online Giving** is available on our website at **www.rrbch.com**. Convenient **Mobile Giving** is also available by scanning this QR code or downloading the FREE **EasyTithe** app on your smart device.



SUNDAY, September 10, 2023



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Hearing assistance devices available from usher
 Services are available on YouTube