

the wall. ²⁰ Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, join us there. Our God will fight for us!" ²¹ So we continued the work with half the men holding spears, from the first light of dawn till the stars came out. ²² At that time I also said to the people, "Have every man and his helper stay inside Jerusalem at night, so they can serve us as guards by night and as workers by day." ²³ Neither I nor my brothers nor my men nor the guards with me took off our clothes; each had his weapon, even when he went for water.

Sermon
Standing in the Gap

The Rev. Peter Larson

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

*Closing Hymn

A Mighty Fortress

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure,
one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours thro' him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever.

Benediction

The Rev. Randy Fannin

Postlude

Julie Shelton

A Mighty Fortress Gordon Young

** Please stand if you are able*

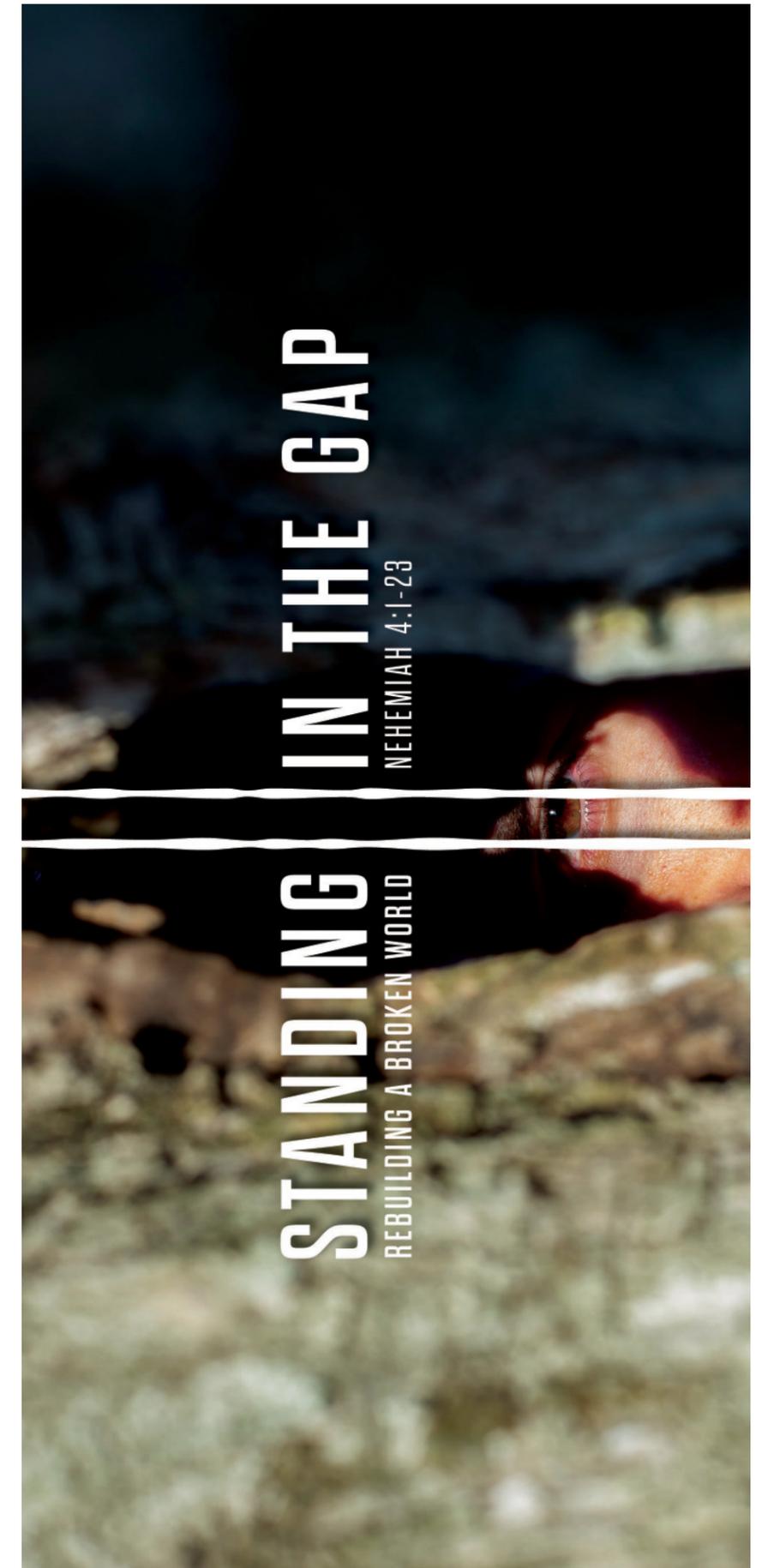
Please silence all cell phones prior to the beginning of worship.

Lebanon Presbyterian Church
An Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC)

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Office Hours - Mon-Thurs 8 to 4 p.m.; Friday 8 to 3 p.m.

lebanonpresbyterian.org



Sunday, August 30, 2020

8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Worship Service

WE GATHER

Welcome and Announcements The Rev. Peter Larson

Prelude Daniel Sachs
Holy, Holy, Holy arr. Mark Hayes

*Call to Worship (Psalm 25) The Rev. Peter Larson

Leader: In you, Lord my God, I put my trust. I trust in you.

People: Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Leader: Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths.

People: Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are my God and my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

Leader: Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love, for they are from old.

People: All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful toward those who keep the demands of his covenant.

Leader: Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.

People: Relieve the troubles of my heart and free me from anguish.

Leader: Guard my life and rescue me, do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

All: May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope, Lord, is in you.

*Hymns

Lead On, O King Eternal

Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest your tents shall be our home.
Through days of preparation your grace has made us strong,
and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper the sweet Amen of peace;
for not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums;
with deeds of love and mercy the heavenly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King eternal, we follow, not with fears;
for gladness breaks like morning where'er your face appears;
your cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light;
the crown awaits the conquest: lead on, O God of might.

WE PRAY

Prayer of Confession The Rev. Peter Larson

Almighty and Merciful God: You sent your Son into the world to defeat the powers of evil. Every step of the way, he faced conflict. Every step of the way, he faced criticism. Every step of the way, he faced false accusations. Every step of the way, he faced powerful enemies who tried to silence and stop him, until finally they nailed him to a cross. Lord, forgive us for expecting a life without conflict. Forgive us, for believing that Satan will leave us alone. Forgive us, for imagining that we will have no enemies. Forgive us, for running from the call to battle, instead of standing firm in our faith. By your

Spirit, help us to endure conflict and opposition when it comes. By your grace, give us courage and perseverance to fight the battle, win the victory and overcome. We pray in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, AMEN.

Personal Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

* Response *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

My faith looks up to thee,
thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day be wholly thine!

Baptism of Jaclyne Andrews 8:30

Prayers of the People The Rev. Randy Fannin

WE GIVE BACK TO GOD

Prayer of Dedication Skyler Gerald

Offertory Rachel and Daniel Sachs
He That Keepeth Israel Adolphe Schloesser

WE HEAR THE WORD

First Scripture Reading Shelley Bondurant 8:30
Ephesians 6:10-18 Chris Dorsch 10:00

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Hymn

For All the Saints

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again and arms are strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds and ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl stream in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 4:1-23

¹ When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the Jews, ² and in the presence of his associates and the army of Samaria, he said, "What are those feeble Jews doing? Will they restore their wall? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they finish in a day? Can they bring the stones back to life from those heaps of rubble—burned as they are?" ³ Tobiah the Ammonite, who was at his side, said, "What they are building—even a fox climbing up on it would break down their wall of stones!" ⁴ Hear us, our God, for we are despised. Turn their insults back on their own heads. Give them over as plunder in a land of captivity. ⁵ Do not cover up their guilt or blot out their sins from your sight, for they have thrown insults in the face of the builders.

⁶ So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart. ⁷ But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the people of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem's walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry. ⁸ They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it. ⁹ But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat. ¹⁰ Meanwhile, the people in Judah said, "The strength of the laborers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall." ¹¹ Also our enemies said, "Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and will kill them and put an end to the work." ¹² Then the Jews who lived near them came and told us ten times over, "Wherever you turn, they will attack us." ¹³ Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows. ¹⁴ After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, "Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes." ¹⁵ When our enemies heard that we were aware of their plot and that God had frustrated it, we all returned to the wall, each to our own work. ¹⁶ From that day on, half of my men did the work, while the other half were equipped with spears, shields, bows and armor. The officers posted themselves behind all the people of Judah ¹⁷ who were building the wall. Those who carried materials did their work with one hand and held a weapon in the other, ¹⁸ and each of the builders wore his sword at his side as he worked. But the man who sounded the trumpet stayed with me. ¹⁹ Then I said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, "The work is extensive and spread out, and we are widely separated from each other along