

³⁰ So I purified the priests and the Levites of everything foreign, and assigned them duties, each to his own task. ³¹ I also made provision for contributions of wood at designated times, and for the firstfruits. Remember me with favor, my God.

Sermon
Always Reforming

The Rev. Peter Larson

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

*Closing Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home!

Under the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night,
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all its years away,
they fly, forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home!

Benediction

The Rev. Peter Larson

Postlude

Julie Shelton

Ricercare on "St. Anne" Gordon Young

** Please stand if you are able*

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

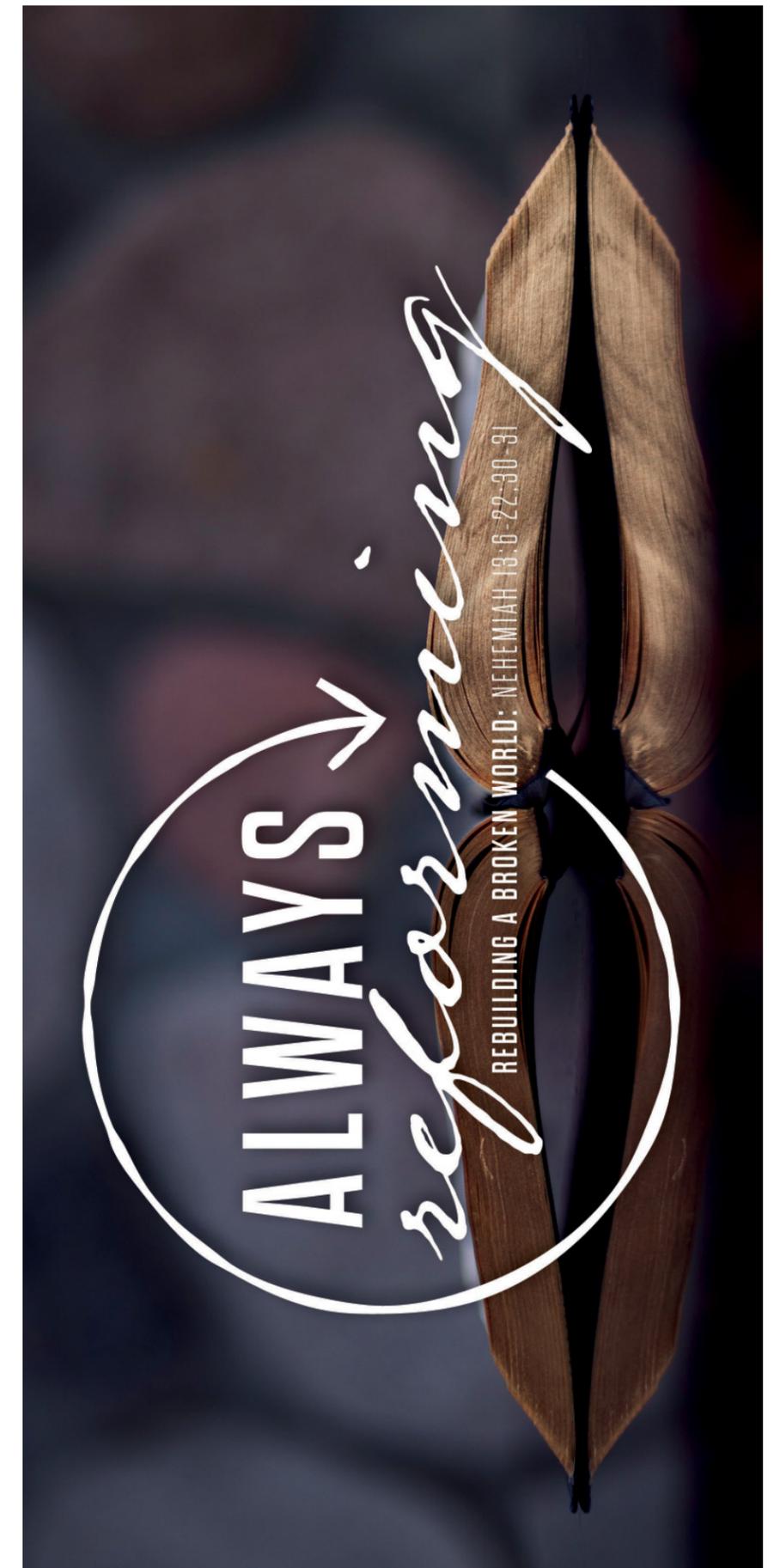
We are live streaming the 8:30 a.m. worship service and there is a chance your image will be captured on video. If this is a concern, please contact a staff member.

Lebanon Presbyterian Church
An Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC)

123 N. East St., Lebanon, Ohio 45036 • 513-932-2751 • Fax 513-934-0339

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

lebanonpresbyterian.org



Sunday, October 25, 2020

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

WE GATHER

Welcome and Announcements The Rev. John Morris

Prelude Daniel Sachs
Neo-Classique Mark Hayes

*Call to Worship The Rev. John Morris

Leader: The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty;

People: The Lord is robed in majesty and armed with strength; indeed, the world is established, firm and secure.

Leader: Your throne was established long ago, you are from all eternity.

People: The seas have lifted up, Lord, the seas have lifted up their voice; the seas have lifted up their pounding waves.

Leader: Mightier than the thunder of the great waters, mightier than the breakers of the seas, the Lord on high is mighty.

All: Your statues, Lord, stand firm; holiness adorns your house for endless days.

*Opening Hymn

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

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.

WE PRAY

Prayer of Confession Andrew Johnson 8:30
Tom Way 10:00

Lord God, our greatest sin is that we deny our sin. Our greatest failing is that we cover up our failures. Our greatest fault is that we pretend to be good, moral and righteous when we are not. Remind us again, Lord, that you came to save sinners, not good people. Remind us again, Lord, that you died for the ungodly and the unrighteous. By your Spirit, help us to admit the truth:

that we are sinners, saved by grace. Forgive us for our pride and self-righteousness. As your people called by your Name, may we be honest about our failures and transparent about our mistakes. Instead of judging others, help us to show the grace and forgiveness that we have received. We pray in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, AMEN.

Assurance of Pardon

* Response *Doxology*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above, Ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People The Rev. Peter Larson

WE GIVE BACK TO GOD

Prayer of Dedication Shelley Bondurant 8:30
Dave Corfman 10:00

Offertory LPC Children's Choir,
Feed My Lambs Natalie Sleeth Daniel Sachs, Lynn Steinkirchner

WE HEAR THE WORD

First Scripture Reading Rachel Jaynes
Matthew 26:30-35

³⁰ When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ³¹ Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered." ³² But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee." ³³ Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will." ³⁴ "Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." ³⁵ But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the other disciples said the same.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Second Hymn

Lord, I Want to be a Christian
Lord, I want to be a Christian
in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving
in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy
in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus
in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

Second Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 13:6-22; 30-31

⁶ But while all this was going on, I was not in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon I had returned to the king. Some time later I asked his permission ⁷ and came back to Jerusalem. Here I learned about the evil thing Eliashib had done in providing Tobiah a room in the courts of the house of God. ⁸ I was greatly displeased and threw all Tobiah's household goods out of the room. ⁹ I gave orders to purify the rooms, and then I put back into them the equipment of the house of God, with the grain offerings and the incense. ¹⁰ I also learned that the portions assigned to the Levites had not been given to them, and that all the Levites and musicians responsible for the service had gone back to their own fields. ¹¹ So I rebuked the officials and asked them, "Why is the house of God neglected?" Then I called them together and stationed them at their posts. ¹² All Judah brought the tithes of grain, new wine and olive oil into the storerooms. ¹³ I put Shelemiah the priest, Zadok the scribe, and a Levite named Pedaiah in charge of the storerooms and made Hanan son of Zakkur, the son of Mattaniah, their assistant, because they were considered trustworthy. They were made responsible for distributing the supplies to their fellow Levites. ¹⁴ Remember me for this, my God, and do not blot out what I have so faithfully done for the house of my God and its services. ¹⁵ In those days I saw people in Judah treading winepresses on the Sabbath and bringing in grain and loading it on donkeys, together with wine, grapes, figs and all other kinds of loads. And they were bringing all this into Jerusalem on the Sabbath. Therefore I warned them against selling food on that day. ¹⁶ People from Tyre who lived in Jerusalem were bringing in fish and all kinds of merchandise and selling them in Jerusalem on the Sabbath to the people of Judah. ¹⁷ I rebuked the nobles of Judah and said to them, "What is this wicked thing you are doing—desecrating the Sabbath day? ¹⁸ Didn't your ancestors do the same things, so that our God brought all this calamity on us and on this city? Now you are stirring up more wrath against Israel by desecrating the Sabbath." ¹⁹ When evening shadows fell on the gates of Jerusalem before the Sabbath, I ordered the doors to be shut and not opened until the Sabbath was over. I stationed some of my own men at the gates so that no load could be brought in on the Sabbath day. ²⁰ Once or twice the merchants and sellers of all kinds of goods spent the night outside Jerusalem. ²¹ But I warned them and said, "Why do you spend the night by the wall? If you do this again, I will arrest you." From that time on they no longer came on the Sabbath. ²² Then I commanded the Levites to purify themselves and go and guard the gates in order to keep the Sabbath day holy. Remember me for this also, my God, and show mercy to me according to your great love.