

**November 22, 2020**  
**Service of Worship**

**Prelude**

G.F. Handel

*Arioso* (“Thanks Be to God”)

Felix Mendelssohn

“Hear Ye, Israel” from *Elijah*

*Laura Leon*

“Hear ye, Israel; hear what the Lord speaketh: ‘Oh, hadst thou heeded my commandments!’ Who hath believed our report: to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? Thus saith the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him oppressed by tyrants: thus saith the Lord: ‘I am he that comforteth; be not afraid, for I am thy God, I will strengthen thee. Say, who art thou, that thou art afraid of a man that shall die; and forgettest the Lord thy Maker, who hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the earth’s foundations? Be not afraid, for I, thy God, will strengthen thee.’”

**Welcome**

**Opening Prayer**

**First Scripture Reading**

2 Corinthians 8:9-15

“You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Although he was rich, he became poor for our sakes, so that you could become rich through his poverty. I’m giving you my opinion about this. It’s to your advantage to do this, since you not only started to do it last year but

you wanted to do it too. Now finish the job as well so that you finish it with as much enthusiasm as you started, given what you can afford. A gift is appreciated because of what a person can afford, not because of what that person can't afford, if it's apparent that it's done willingly. It isn't that we want others to have financial ease and you financial difficulties, but it's a matter of equality. At the present moment, your surplus can fill their deficit so that in the future their surplus can fill your deficit. In this way there is equality. As it is written, *The one who gathered more didn't have too much, and the one who gathered less didn't have too little.*"

## **Hymn of Praise**

Simple Gifts, Setting by Hal Hopson

"I Danced in the Morning"

"I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.  
Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
But they would not dance and they would not follow me;  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;  
They came with me and the dance went on.  
Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,

And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.  
I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;  
The holy people said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,  
And left me there on a cross to die.  
Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;  
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.  
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone:  
But I am the dance and I still go on.  
Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

They cut me down and I leap up high;  
I am the life that will never, never die;  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me:  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.  
Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he."

## **Sacrament of Baptism (9 a.m.)**

*Naomi Lee Nudelman*

Daughter of Ross and Alex Nudelman  
Granddaughter of Rob and Joan Tanner

## **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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.”

## **Ministry of the Church**

## **Time with the Children (11 a.m.)**

## **Special Music**

Leo Nestor

“How Firm a Foundation”

“How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!  
What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

## **Second Scripture**

1 Peter 2:4-7

"Now you are coming to him as to a living stone. Even though this stone was rejected by humans, from God's perspective it is chosen, valuable. You yourselves are being built like living stones into a spiritual temple. You are being made into a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. Thus it is written in scripture, *Look! I am laying a cornerstone in Zion, chosen, valuable. The person who believes in him will never be shamed.* So God honors you who believe. For those who refuse to believe, though, the stone the builders tossed aside has become the capstone."

## **Sermon**

Dr. Hood

"Living Stones"

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

Paul Manz

"Now Thank We All Our God"

The flowers that beautify the Chancel this morning are given in loving memory of Fritz Souder, from the Souder family; in loving memory of Bart Bartholomew, from Buzz Bartholomew and family; in loving memory of Norman and Caroline Blood, and their daughter, Laura Lynn, from the Blood family; and in loving memory of Paul's mother, Louise Johnson Miller, and Andy's father, Francis A. Hernandez, from Paul and Andy Miller.