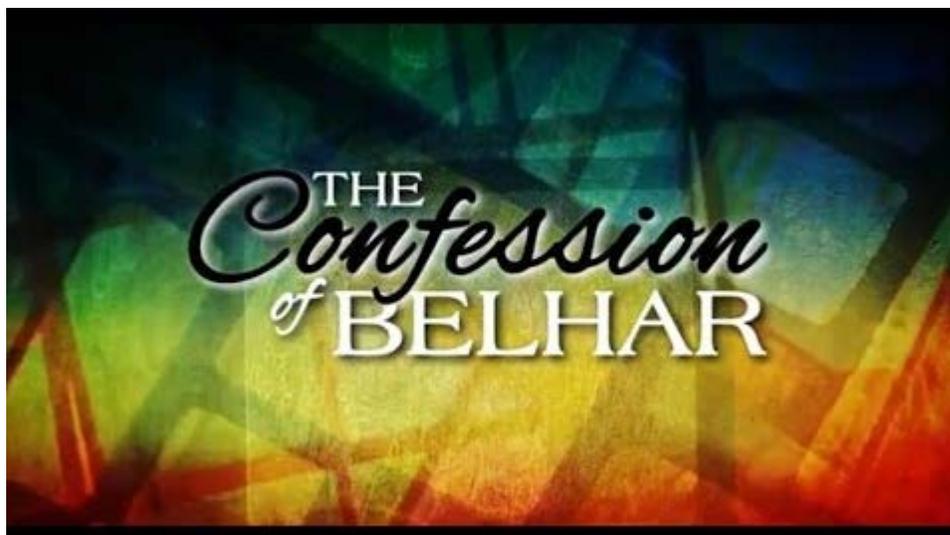


THE ORDER OF WORSHIP  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PENDLETON, OREGON  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 – 16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



**The Confession of Belhar** – Out of Apartheid. The Confession of Belhar was written by the synod of the Dutch Reformed Mission Church (DRMC) in South Africa in 1986. The confession was originally written in Afrikaans. The church that succeeded the DRMC after apartheid is the United Reformed Church of Southern Africa. This body has offered the Confession of Belhar to the global Reformed family as a gift, believing that the themes of unity, reconciliation, and justice issue a call from God to the whole church toward holy action, transformation, and life. The PC(USA) added the Confession of Belhar to the Book of Confessions in 2016.

PASTOR – Rev. Jonathan Mitchell  
LITURGIST – Chuck Wood  
MUSIC – Steve Muller  
PIANIST – Sue Nelson

You are invited to participate with us.  
**Bold words** are spoken together.  
***Bold Italic words*** are sung together.

PRELUDE

*How Can I Keep from Singing* Lani Smith, Robert Lowry

My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation; I hear the real, tho' for off hymn that hails the new creation. Above the tumult and the strife I hear its music ringing. It sounds an echo in my soul; how can I keep from singing?

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minute for Mission: Peace and Global Witness Offering

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN #761 CALLED AS PARTNERS IN CHRIST'S SERVICE

Verse 1

Called as partners in Christ's service  
Called to ministries of grace  
We respond with deep commitment  
Fresh new lines of faith to trace  
May we learn the art of sharing  
Side by side and friend with friend  
Equal partners in our caring  
To fulfil God's chosen end

Verse 2

Christ's example Christ's inspiring  
Christ's clear call to work and worth  
Let us follow never faltering  
Reconciling folk on earth  
Men and women richer poorer  
All God's people young and old  
Blending human skills together  
Gracious gifts from God unfold

Verse 3

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission  
In a small or global sense  
Help us bear each other's burdens  
Breaking down each wall or fence  
Words of comfort words of vision  
Words of challenge said with care  
Bring new power and strength for action  
Make us colleagues free and fair

Verse 4

So God grant us for tomorrow  
Ways to order human life  
That surround each person's sorrow  
With a calm that conquers strife  
Make us partners in our living  
Our compassion to increase  
Messengers of faith thus giving  
Hope and confidence and peace

CALL TO WORSHIP

From Psalm 145

I will extol you, my God and King,  
and bless your name forever and ever.

**Every day I will bless you,  
and praise your name forever and ever.**

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;  
God's greatness is unsearchable.

**One generation shall laud your works to another,  
and shall declare your mighty acts.**

On the glorious splendor of your majesty,  
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

**The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,  
and I will declare your greatness.**

They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,  
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

**The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, Mighty God, when we doubt the generosity of your love.

**Assure us, faithful God, when we doubt your constant presence.**

Renew us, Loving God,

when we neglect to love others as you have loved us.

**Empower us with your strength  
and encourage us with your steadfast love.**

Unite us through the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that we might live with a faith that honors you,  
and abide with a hope that encourages others  
to know your love and grace.

(time for silent, personal confession)

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

From Psalm 145

The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love  
Join me in these words of forgiveness:

**By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

#### GLORIA PATRI - #581

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:  
world without end. Amen. Amen.***

#### PASSING OF THE PEACE

From Phil. 1

United in one mind and spirit,  
let us share signs of love and peace with one another.  
May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**

ANTHEM

*O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

HEBREW LESSON  
GOSPEL LESSON

Exodus 16:2-15  
Matthew 20:1-16

SERMON

God's Math

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From The Confession of Belhar

**We believe that the unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways;**

- **In that we love one another;**
- **That we experience, practice and pursue community with one another;**
- **That we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another**
- **Together we come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ;**
- **Together we are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity;**

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN AND 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 #623

I'VE GOT PEACE LIKE A RIVER

Verse 1

I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river in my soul.  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river in my soul.

Verse 2

I've got love like a river,  
I've got love like a river,  
I've got love like a river in my soul.

I've got love like a river,

I've got love like a river,  
I've got love like a river in my soul

Verse 3

I've got joy like a river,  
I've got joy like a river,  
I've got joy like a river in my soul.  
I've got joy like a river,  
I've got joy like a river,  
I've got joy like a river in my soul.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

Traditional Spiritual