VENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHUR







8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM

July 23, 2023

PRELUDE

Selection from quest organist, John Matthews

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amanda Rosica

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 130: 1-12, 24-25

Leader: You have searched me, LORD, and you know me.

People: You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

<u>Leader:</u> You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

People: Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely.

Leader: You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.

People: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

Leader: Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

People: If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

<u>Leader</u>: If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

People: If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Leader: Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

People: See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

HYMN

For the Fruit of All Creation

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?' "'An enemy did this,' he replied. "The servants asked him, 'Do you want

us to go and pull them up?' "'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the





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harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.' "Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. "As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Selection from guest organist, John Matthews

SERMON "An inspiring word from UrbanPromise President & Founder"

Dr. Bruce Main

HYMN

The Works of the Lord Are Created

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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 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

O Love, How Deep, How Broad

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Selection from quest organist, John Matthews

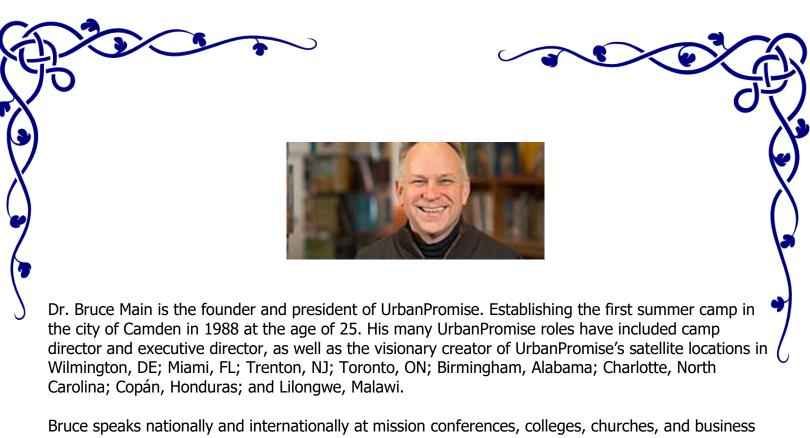
MINISTERS: Nancy Perritt and Joan Samph (Ushers), Ann Rosica (Flower Delivery), Nancy Perritt (Refreshments)

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS presented to the Glory of God by Treva Grunigen in loving memory of her mother and father, Arthur and Violet Coover.

WE THANK: Bruce Main from UrbanPromise for leading us in worship!

WE THANK: John Matthews for sharing his music!





Bruce speaks nationally and internationally at mission conferences, colleges, churches, and business seminars. He and UrbanPromise are featured regularly in local media outlets and were highlighted on Diane Sawyer's 20/20 special "Waiting on the World to Change."

Bruce is an adjunct faculty member at Eastern University and co-authored the book *Revolution & Renewal: How Churches Are Saving Our Cities* with Dr. Tony Campolo, professor emeritus at Eastern and renowned sociologist and Christian leader. Bruce has also authored *If Jesus Were A Sophomore: Discipleship for College Students, If Jesus Were A Senior: Last Minute Preparations for a Life of Discipleship, Spotting the Sacred: Finding God in Unlikely Places, and Holy Hunches: Responding to the Promptings of God, The Promise Effect, and his first children's book – The Water Barrel.*

Bruce graduated from Azusa Pacific University with a Bachelor of Arts in Theology. He received his Master's in Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary and his Doctorate of Ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary. He lives with his wife Pamela and has three grown children.





1. FLOWER CHART There are still slots available for you to dedicate the chancel flowers to a loved one. Please sign up using the flower chart in the narthex.

2. COLLECTION

The Deacons are collecting school supplies from July 9-August 6. Please place all items in the Narthex.

3. ATTENTION PHILLIES FANS Join us for an afternoon at the Phillies Game for Covenant members, friends, and family! Join the fellowship team for a fun afternoon at the ball park as the Phillies take on the Kansas City Royals on August 6th at 1:35PM. Please sign up on the bulletin board to express interest ASAP. Tickets will be \$35 or less. Please direct any questions to Mandy Rosica.

4. YOUR PARTICIPATION IS NEEDED! Members are invited to participate in our services. Please contact Bonnie Cain or Greg DiBona if you are interested in reading scripture or leading our worship services. We are also in need of more volunteers to operate the camera and soundboard. Please contact the church office if you are interested.



MONTHLY MEETINGS AND SCHEDULES

Women's Bible Study – Summer Break Choir Rehearsal – Summer Break Bell Rehearsal – Summer Break

Christian Education (Bonnie Cain and Amanda Rosica) – as needed

Deacons – 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM

Fellowship (Amanda Rosica) – 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 PM

Finance and Stewardship (Mike Martin) – 2nd Monday, 7:00 PM

Men's Breakfast -Tuesdays, 7:00 AM

Membership (Nancy Perritt) – as needed

Mission (Dave Sutton) – as needed

Music and Worship (Leslie Todd) – 2nd Wednesday, 1:15 PM

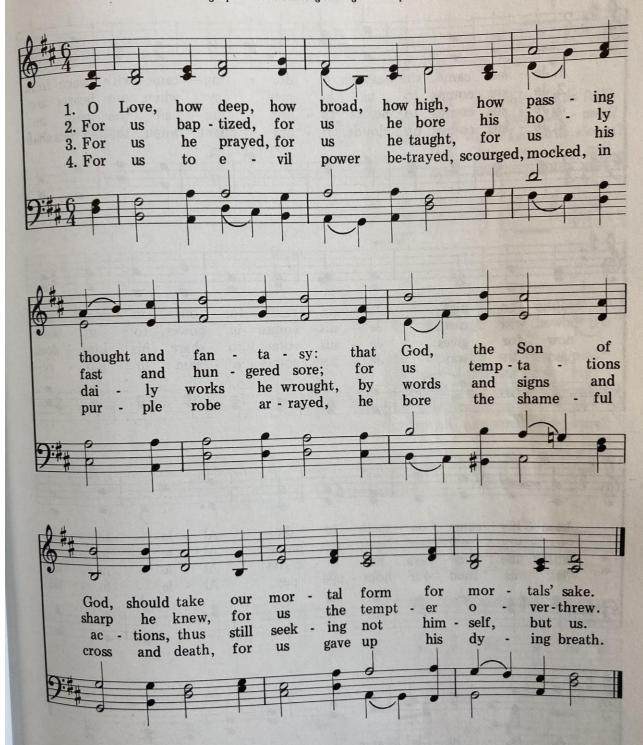
Property Care (Chuck Rosica and Bob Jeffries) – determined by chairperson

Session – 4th Thursday, 7:30 PM



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. . . to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ. Eph. 3:18

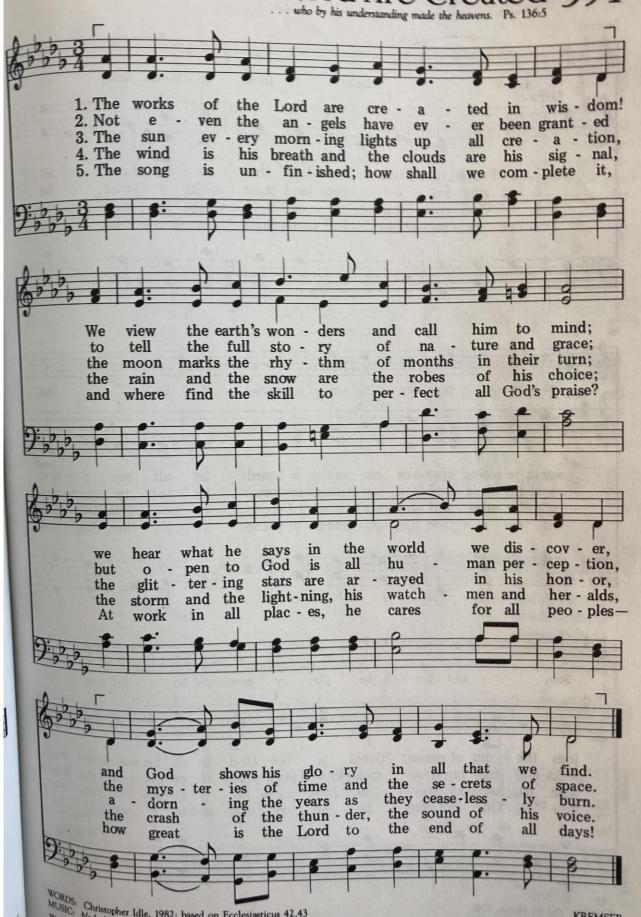


5. For us he rose from death again;
for us he went on high to reign;
for us he sent his Spirit here
to guide, to comfort, and to cheer.

WORDS. A

6. All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad the Trinity whom we adore forever and forevermore.

The Works of the Lord Are Created 354



WORDS: Fred Pratt Green, 1970

