

Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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Rev. M. Muriel Burrows, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Louise Johnson, Director of Christian Education
Christo Claassens, Lector

Beverly Owens, Music Director
Amy Shortt, Interim Organist

July 23, 2006

10:00 a.m.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Enter Reverently, Meditate Quietly, Worship Devoutly,
Leave Gratefully, Serve Christ Faithfully*

PRELUDE

INTROIT

Whom Have I?

Jane Marshall

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CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are called to an eternal inheritance.
It is waiting for us to claim it today.

**People: We are people of a new covenant in Christ.
By the life and death of Jesus, we are redeemed.**

Leader: How precious is God's steadfast love!
We take refuge in the shadow of God's wings.

**People: In God we find the fountain of life.
In the light of God's love, we see light.**

All: Let us worship the living, loving God!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

All: Dear God, we thank you that you never forsake us, that you never stop loving us. Trusting in your unfailing love, we have gathered to worship and praise you. Through your Holy Spirit, touch us, renew us, comfort us, challenge us; for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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*HYMN OF PRAISE

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

#464

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: God has always been there for us, loving us and calling us to be all that we can be. Let us tell God all about ourselves, not leaving anything out. Let us confess our sins in God's presence.

All: Our lives are sometimes very lacking in love, God. We only barely love ourselves; some days it is a struggle to love our families; and there's little energy left for loving our neighbor. We love you when we can, O God, and try to believe in your inexhaustible love for us, but the words sound hollow. When you say, "I love you," we are always waiting for the "if..." Forgive us for our lack of faith and limited loving. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SILENT CONFESSION

Congregational Response (Sung):

#321

**Holy Spirit, truth divine,
Dawn upon this soul of mine;
Word of God, and inward light,
Wake my spirit, clear my sight.**

**Holy Spirit, love divine,
Glow within this heart of mine;
Kindle every high desire;
Perish self in Thy pure fire.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: There is no greater joy in the heart of God than the moment when a son or daughter opens to the gift of forgiveness. God's Spirit reaches out to assure us of welcome in Christ. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are God's by grace. With great joy we are made alive. Thanks be to God. Amen. Believe the good news of the Gospel;

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI (kids' pink page)

#579

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of peace!

*HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

#376

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Page 175

SPECIAL MUSIC *Mary, Don't Weep, Don't Mourn* Patsy Ford Simms

SERMON *Who Is in Charge? God and Love* Rev. Muriel Burrows

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (kids' orange page)

TITHES AND OFFERINGS *Offer the sacrifices of righteousness,
and put your trust in the Lord.*

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY (kids' red page) #592

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**All: We dedicate our lives and all that we have to the work of life, of love,
of peace. Receive our gifts and lead us in wisdom and courage. Amen.**

*HYMN *Jesus Loves Me!* #304

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION *Benediction* Jane Marshall

* Congregation stands
** Latecomers ushered in

ANNOUNCEMENTS



WELCOME - The Pastor, Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon welcome most warmly all worshipers. Our fellowship is enriched by your presence. If you do not have a church home of your own, we do sincerely invite you to be a part of our fellowship. Please contact the church office for further information if you are interested in church membership (609) 924-1666.



SUNDAY SCHOOL is on break for the summer. But Sunday school will resume on the second Sunday of September (September 11) with classes for all ages. Please plan to join us!

FLOWERS - If you would like to provide flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, or simply to beautify the church, please sign up on the chart located on the door of the sound room (left-hand entrance from the sanctuary to the parish house). After worship service, the donor may take the flowers home. At present, it is the responsibility of the person

giving the flowers to make his/her own arrangements for preparation and delivery of the flowers for the Chancel. The next available date is July 30.

USHERS for this morning's service are Audi and Michelle Peal. Next week's ushers are Beverly Owens and Adrienne Daniels Paris.



COFFEE HOUR - Please join us for a Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall following this morning's worship service. Host for the month of August is Joyce Abbott. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Coffee Hour should contact Joyce (609-448-4511).

LECTIONARY TEXT for next Sunday, July 30, is 2 Samuel 11:1-15; Psalm 14; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21.

NEW VOLUNTEER POSSIBILITIES

THE USHER BOARD needs four additional ushers. Anyone who is willing to usher three to four times a year or would like more information should contact Joan Tomlin (609-637-9646 or jotomlin@msn.com).



FOOD DONATIONS FOR CRISIS MINISTRY – The Deacons are collecting cereals, canned meat, fish, poultry and beans for the Crisis Ministry. *****NO GLASS JARS, PLEASE.***** Other nourishing food will also be accepted. Checks made payable to the Crisis Ministry are always welcome and may be placed in the offering plate or given to a deacon. Please consider an extra purchase during your next grocery shopping trip and place items in the wooden box in the Narthex.



SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE – The Bayard Jordan Memorial Scholarship Fund awards a scholarship to a youth (12+ years old) who best represents the ideals of this African-American tennis player. The scholarship will allow a student to attend one week at the Princeton Tennis Program Training Camp at Princeton University. Information about Bayard Jordan and the scholarship fund as well as applications are available in the Narthex. Donations are greatly needed.



CAMP JOHNSONBURG NEEDS HELP! – Camp Johnsonburg is looking for people of different ethnic backgrounds who might be willing to go to the camp for a day or part of a day, to share some of their experiences with campers. You can share a song, food, or anything else that will help our campers appreciate the many different cultures represented here in New Jersey. The camp also needs male counselors who can help out for a week or more this summer. Volunteers are appreciated, but you can be paid for your time. If you have a week or more available, please call Harry or James (908-852-2349).



PROPERTY ACQUISITION UPDATE

(as of May 31, 2006)

Total collection for property acquisition*	\$101,764.43
Total expenses*	<u>80,936.24</u>
Balance	\$20,863.19

*2004 to present