

A Celebration of the Ministry of Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church
 Sunday, January 15, 2023, 1:30 pm
 1961- 2023

Please mute all electronic devices. Congregational responses are in **bold**. Please sign the book in the entry area so we can acknowledge your presence with us in worship.

Welcome & Gathering

Ms. Kate Belt, Ruling Elder

Our Land Acknowledgment

We gather on the ancestral shared lands of the Multnomah, Kathlamet, Clackamas bands of Chinook peoples; the Tualatin, Kalapuya, Molalla, and many others who made their homes along the Columbia & Willamette rivers. We are grateful for their stewardship of the land and water from time immemorial. May we live consciously and respectfully, honoring treaties, and remembering that God created everything and we are to keep it sacred.

Prelude

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”
 Ms. Ivona Schacker

arr. H. Livingson, Jr

*Call to Worship

Ms. Emily Hebbbron, Clerk of Session

For everything there is a season,

and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

*Opening Sentences

We are here to celebrate the life of Common Ground/Colonial Heights Church,

to give thanks to God for the gifts that have come to us

and to others through this ministry,

to acknowledge our sadness at the close of this ministry,

and to affirm again our faith in Jesus Christ.

Let us be grateful for God’s gifts,

honest about our sorrow, open in our love,

trusting in Jesus Christ, the only head of the church.
The service today marks a passage for this congregation.
A ministry is coming to a close;
something new is about to be born.
Congregations are formed and congregations are dissolved,
but the Lord our God reigns forever.

*Opening Hymn #826 Lift High the Cross (GTG Hymnal)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us humble ourselves before God,
opening our lives to God's healing presence,
forsaking all that separates us from God and neighbor.
Let us confess to God
whatever has wounded us or brought injury to others,
that we may receive mercy
and become for each other ministers of God's grace.
Let us confess our sin together.

CONFESSION OF SIN

**Merciful God, we confess
that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
with our whole heart and mind and strength;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

2 Corinthians 5:17

God hears our deepest feelings of heart and mind and spirit and has heard us this afternoon.

We will continue to offer these feelings as we let go this faith community. God will continue to listen to us.

God will go with in our new ventures of life and faith, God is eternally to be trusted.

God's peace will be our peace. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you. (Please pass the peace to those around you.)

SCRIPTURE Numbers 1: Selected verses

SERMON Tim Winslea, Parish Nurse for Presbyterian Urban Network

COMMUNION HYMN #2283 For All the Saints (Sing the Faith Hymnal)

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Because from the beginning, you invited us on a journey with you O God. A journey of wonders and miracles, a journey of healing and joy, a journey of mystery, a journey full of live and love.

And so in thanks and praise we join our voices in the song of the angels and saints who forever sing to you as we say these words:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed is your son, O God, our savior Jesus Christ, who joined us on our journey, who was so full of grace and truth that we cannot help but follow him. When his path went back to you, you sent us your Spirit to continue alongside us, to empower and inspire us to continue to be your people. Now we pray that that same Spirit will be among us, and among these elements of bread and cup, that our ordinary meal will become our sacred feast, to nourish us for the next part of the journey.

As we break bread together, as we drink from the same cup, unite us as people who are grateful for the journey, for each other's company, and for your guiding presence. And hear us now as we are bold to say together the words Jesus taught.

The Lord's Prayer

Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it was in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

(To participate in communion, worshippers will walk to the front of the sanctuary. You may either have bread or gluten free rice cake handed to you and then dip the element in a common cup. Or you may take a celebration cup. If you are not able to move forward, the elements will be brought to you.)

Prayer After Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE MINISTRY OF COMMON GROUND/COLONIAL HEIGHTS CHURCH

Words of Thanksgiving from the Presbytery of the Cascades: The Rev. Brian Herron, Presbyter for Vision and Mission

Liturgy led by Ms. Cary Carty, Deacon
Throughout the years, God has blessed Common Ground/Colonial Heights Church, using the gifts of pastors and members to bring help and healing, changing lives in the name of Christ. We celebrate this!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

How can we thank you, O God,
for the ministry of this church over these past 60 years?
For every person who has shown the love of Christ to another,
for every quiet act of service which helped another,
for every song of praise offered to you
from the depths of a grateful heart,
for every prayer uttered here which gave you honor and glory,
for all the ways in which you have guided and directed these your people,
for all these gifts of ministry,
we give you thanks and praise!

*DOXOLOGY #607 GTG

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Isaiah 42:6-7

*CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION – Rev. Gregg Neel, Moderator of the Administrative Commission

Beloved sisters and brothers,
the church is not this building;
it is you who are called by God to be followers of Jesus Christ.
The church of Jesus Christ needs you
and the gifts the Spirit has instilled within you
to build up Christ's body.
So we charge and encourage you
to find a place of worship
where you may be encouraged in your faith
and where you may encourage others.

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by the authority of the Presbytery of the Cascades. I declare this building vacated by the congregation of Common Ground/Colonial Heights. This Church will be dissolved by action of the Presbytery, January 18, 2023.

*Closing Hymn #70 What Does the Lord Require of You? (GTG Hymnal)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Psalm 19" B. Marcelo
We invite you to remain seated while we hear the postlude, then join us for refreshments