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**Harbor Church**

First Gathered on October 23, 1765

Our 256th Year
eWorship Bulletin for September 5th, 2021, 10 a.m.f

**WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE
September 5th, 2021, 10:00 a.m.**

**WE GATHER TOGETHER**

**Prelude** *Hello*, G. Kurstin/A. Atkins

**Welcome & Opening Reflection**

“I wait for the Lord, my soul waits for God alone, and in His word place my hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than those on watch who wait for the morning, Yes*,* more than those who watch for the morning.’ - Psalm 130

**Call to Worship** (*From Psalm 127 & 128*)

Leader: Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builders is wasted.

**People: Unless the Lord protects a city, guarding it with sentries will do no good.**

Leader: It is useless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night, anxiously working for food to eat; for God gives rest to his beloved.

**People: How joyful are those who fear the Lord, who follow his ways!**

Leader: They will enjoy the fruits of their labor. How joyful and prosperous they will be!

**People: This is the Lord’s blessing for all those who fear him.**

**Song** *“The Solid Rock” Hymn #590*

My hope is built on nothing less

Than Jesus' blood and righteousness

I dare not trust the sweetest frame

But wholly lean on Jesus' name

Chorus

On Christ the solid Rock I stand

All other ground is sinking sand

All other ground is sinking sand

When darkness veils His lovely face

I rest on His unchanging grace

In ev'ry high and stormy gale

My anchor holds within the veil

[Chorus]

His oath His covenant His blood

Support me in the whelming flood

When all around my soul gives way

He then is all my hope and stay

[Chorus]

When He shall come with trumpet sound

O may I then in Him be found

Dressed in His righteousness alone

Faultless to stand before the throne

[Chorus]

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**A Unison Prayer** (from song by “Third Day”) **To you, O Lord, I lift my soul. In you, O God, I place my trust.
Do not let me be put to shame, or let my enemies triumph over me.
My hope is you, show me your ways, guide me in truth in all my days
My hope is you.
I am, O Lord, filled with your love. You are, O God, my salvation.
Guard my life and rescue me, my broken spirit shouts, my mended heart cries out: “My hope is You.”**

**Disciple’s Moment** **– *Dedication of Holden Charles Lacoste***

***Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 6:4-9****Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Teach them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.*

***Questions For the Parents****Do you renew your own commitment as children of God to follow the Lord, and to love and serve Christ with your lives and by your example?*

*Do you today recognize this child as the gifts of God and give heartfelt thanks for God’s blessing of your family?*

*Do you now dedicate your child to the Lord who gave him to you, in the hope that he will come to know and love the Lord and follow God his whole life long?*

*Do you pledge as parents that, with God’s help, you will bring up your children in the teaching of the Christian faith and the instruction of the Lord, making every reasonable effort, with patience and love, to impart a saving knowledge of God, and to build the character of Christ and the joy of the Lord into his life?*

*Do you promise to provide, through God’s blessing and the best of your abilities, for the physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual needs of your children, looking to your own heavenly Parent for the wisdom, love and strength to nurture, serve and lead them well?*

***Questions For Family, Friends, and Church****Do you agree, with God’s help, to pray for this family as they come to mind, that they may all grow in their knowledge of God and love for the Lord, and will you support these parents in whatever ways you can as they raise their children in the Christian faith?* ***We do!***

***Prayer of Dedication****Having heard the promises and desires of this family to raise this child in the light of your presence and love, we now dedicate Holden Charles Lacoste to you. May you lead him to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, and may he grow in faith, hope and love all the days of his life. We dedicate him to you in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen.*

***Presentation of the Child to the Congregation***

**First Reading**Matthew 24:29-44
*The Second Coming*Immediately after the anguish of those days, the sun will be darkened, the moon will give no light, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then at last, the sign that the Son of Man is coming will appear in the heavens, and there will be deep mourning among all the peoples of the earth. And they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with the mighty blast of a trumpet, and they will gather his chosen ones from all over the world—from the farthest ends of the earth and heaven.

Now learn a lesson from the fig tree. When its branches bud and its leaves begin to sprout, you know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see all these things, you can know his return is very near, right at the door. I tell you the truth, this generation will not pass from the scene until all these things take place. Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words will never disappear. “However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows.

When the Son of Man returns, it will be like it was in Noah’s day. In those days before the flood, the people were enjoying banquets and parties and weddings right up to the time Noah entered his boat. People didn’t realize what was going to happen until the flood came and swept them all away. That is the way it will be when the Son of Man comes. Two men will be working together in the field; one will be taken, the other left. Two women will be grinding flour at the mill; one will be taken, the other left.

So you, too, must keep watch! For you don’t know what day your Lord is coming. Understand this: If a homeowner knew exactly when a burglar was coming, he would keep watch and not permit his house to be broken into. You also must be ready all the time, for the Son of Man will come when least expected.

**Ministry Moment** *“Labor Day”*

**Song** *“**I Confess My Trust ”*

*Chorus 1*

I confess my trust in You

I believe You'll see me through

Through all the hard times that this life may bring

I confess my trust in You

I confess my faith in You

There's not a mountain You can't move

I can believe in all You've promised me

I confess my trust in You

Verse

Let the waters rise up

Let the wind blow strong

I will keep my eyes on You my hope my song

Though the wicked prosper

Goodness shall prevail

Planted on the rock my faith in You won't fail

Chorus 2

I confess my trust in You

I believe You'll see me through

Through all the hard times that this life may bring

I confess my trust in You

I confess my faith in You

There's not a mountain You can't move

I can believe in all You've promised me

I confess my trust, confess my faith, I confess my trust in You

I confess my trust confess my faith

I confess my trust in You

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**GOD DRAWS US NEAR**

**Second Reading** *1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*

*Be Ready*Now concerning how and when all this will happen, dear brothers and sisters, we don’t really need to write you. For you know quite well that the day of the Lord’s return will come unexpectedly, like a thief in the night. When people are saying, “Everything is peaceful and secure,” then disaster will fall on them as suddenly as a pregnant woman’s labor pains begin. And there will be no escape. But you aren’t in the dark about these things, dear brothers and sisters, and you won’t be surprised when the day of the Lord comes like a thief. For you are all children of the light and of the day; we don’t belong to darkness and night. So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded. Night is the time when people sleep and drinkers get drunk. But let us who live in the light be clearheaded, protected by the armor of faith and love, and wearing as our helmet the confidence of our salvation.

For God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, not to pour out his anger on us. Christ died for us so that, whether we are dead or alive when he returns, we can live with him forever. So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

**Message** *“Is Your ‘Go Bag’ Ready?”*

**WE RESPOND IN FAITHFULNESS**

**Musical Meditation** *Prelude Op. 28, No. 7, F. Chopin*

*How do I make sense of the disasters and tragedies of life?*

*What can I do now to prepare myself spiritually for whatever life may bring?*

**Our Offering & Offertory “***People Get Ready”*

**Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Praise God all creatures here below!

Praise God above the heavenly hosts!

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen.

**Sharing our Joys and Concerns**For Praise

* God’s goodness, help and strength during the busy season.
* God is our refuge of safety and security in every storm
* Roberta McCormick received a good report after treatment!

For Passings

* Nicholas Riley (08-06-21)
* Linda Powers (07-17-21)
* Marianne Brown, Carol’s daughter (07-08-11)

For People we Know

* Nancy Cudd, recovering from recent stroke
* Martha Ball’s Family; Brother Bill, and nephew Ed (Bill’s son)
* Renee Batchelder’s grandson Chance needs another heart surgery
* Emily Kaar’s post-surgery healing and wholeness
* Elaine Rosenberg’s heart is failing (Karen McMahon’s mom)
* Betty Fitzpatrick is in Apple Rehab recovering from stroke
* Friends living with cancer treatment:
	+ - Sharon Tavilla’s family friend; 3 yr old on hospice care
		- Todd Tremble’s recovery after chemotherapy
		- Robin Mott
		- Adam Dydak
		- Diana Torres’ brother Augusto

For our Nation and the World

* Recovery in the wake of storm Ida
* Stability and Security in Afghanistan
* Floods, famine, droughts and fires around the world
* Movement towards true justice and social equality for all.
* A reduction in tensions and unity in our nation & community
* For strength and wisdom for our town, regional, and national leaders.

**Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer** *(forgiven us our sins)*

**A Celebration of The Lord’s Supper**

**Our Mission Statement:
“Joyfully, we are invited by the Spirit of God to embrace, celebrate and minister to the hopes and hurts of our members, of our neighbors, and of our the larger community through Christ-centered prayer, worship, teaching, sharing, and caring.”**

**Song:** *“Blessed be the Tie that Binds”* *Hymn #267*

Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love

The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above

Before our Father's throne, We pour our ardent prayers

Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our comforts and our cares

We share our mutual woes Our mutual burdens bear

And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear

From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free

And perfect love and oneness reign through all eternity

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**Passing of the Peace & Benediction**

***Special Thanks to our Worship Music Team****, who continue to inspire us: Carrie Johnson, Cameron Greenlee, Alton Bentley, Lisa Sprague, and Steve Miller*

**Information & Events:**

**Pandemic Protocols** We continue to safeguard the health of our community by observing all the latest government and CDC guidelines. Please wear a mask unless you have been vaccinated for the Covid Virus. Be Well in Jesus’ name!

**Newly Re-designed Website**. Many thanks to Bob Benjamin who recently completely updated our website! There will be weekly changing information on the main page, and our complete church calendar is now available on our Community & Outreach Page.

Visit it to see what is new at [www.harborchurchblockisland.net](http://www.harborchurchblockisland.net)

**Friendship Book.** We have discontinued contact tracing, but would love to stay connected with you-please sign our book before you leave.

**Outdoor Worship is Here! W**e will be having worship services outside on the north lawn, weather permitting, for the rest of the season. Check your email and our church website for details. Please bring a lawn chair if you are able. A few beach umbrellas will be set up for sun protection. Limited parking is available on east side of pergola for those with limited mobility.

**Worship Experience** is Sunday mornings at 10 am in the sanctuary or outdoors, and via live-stream **on our Facebook** page: [Harbor Church — Block Island, RI](https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=harbor%20baptist%20church).

**New Praise Music!** Carrie Johnson, our Music Team Leader and Composer-in-Residence at Harbor Church has just released an EP entitled, Looking Up. It contains four new contemporary Christian songs that she has written over the past year for our worship services. It is available for download through many music streaming sites. Links to: [Amazon Music](https://music.amazon.com/albums/B09BCR393C?ref=dm_sh_2YqYvNWS76XBOYLZS0sJVbw6n) , [Spotify](https://open.spotify.com/artist/4HJk9DfGNIRLBpF0NAxhMq?si=o48e1lnsR5CT9LoBMeo6Bg&utm_source=copy-link&dl_branch=1) , [Apple Music](https://music.apple.com/us/album/looking-up-ep/1578652876) Thank you Carrie, for writing music for the glory of God and for sharing your gifts with us!

**2021 Walk to End Alzheimer's** , Block Island, RI, Sunday, September 19, 2021 Registration at 10:00 a.m. | Ceremony at 11:00 a.m. | Walk at 11:15 a.m. Fred Benson Town Beach

Route Length: 2 miles Contact: Bella Garcia | 401-421-0008 | agarcia@alz.org Island contacts Peter Greenman 466-2950, Sandra Kelly 466-2802, Jennifer Phillips 466-8806.

**Ministry Opportunities** Would you like serve as a worship leader or greeter? See sign-up sheet in Sanctuary or call Pastor Peter ☺

🎂**September Birthday Club**🎂 – *Happy Birthday to our friends:*

Tony Pappas  9/22/49

Michele Phelan  9/21/53

**Connections:
Devotional Thoughts:** YouTube channel- “[*Pastor Peter Preiser*](https://www.youtube.com/user/petrospaulosppp)” **Moments of Inspiration:**  Enjoy through “Instagram @harborchurchbi”

**Our Website:** [www.harborchurchblockisland.net](http://www.harborchurchblockisland.net)

**Our Facebook Page:** [Harbor Church-Block Island, RI](https://www.facebook.com/Harborchurchbi)

**Email Pastor Peter directly** at: petrospaulos@hotmail.com

**ABCORI (American Baptist Churches Of RI)** visit @[**www.abcori.org**](http://www.abcori.org)

**ElderCare resources can be found at:** [**http://eldercare.abcori.org**](http://eldercare.abcori.org/)**. and Eldercare Facebook group:** [**https://www.facebook.com/groups/271681497148349**](https://www.facebook.com/groups/271681497148349)**.**

**ElderCare Zoom Chats- Wednesdays, 10a.m.** Fall Theme-

“You can do This Hard Thing” RequestZoom Link email above

**Electronic Giving Options are now available if you wish to donate to Harbor Church.** Harbor Church is now offering the following options for those who wish to support the ongoing ministries of our church:

* Online through our Website [www.harborchurchblockisland.net](http://www.harborchurchblockisland.net)
* Through mobile apps “GivePlus” at Google Playstore ,Apple Store

All Charitable contributions to Harbor Church are tax-deductible. Year-end statements are sent to all donors. All transactions are securely protected and encrypted. Info: <https://www.vancopayments.com/>.

***A Lacoste Family Keepsake and Tradition***

*This is the history of the Christening gown from Grandma (Maude's mother, Edith):*

*This gown was purchased by Barbara Sherman Wilke (Edith s  sister-in-law and was first used  for the christening of William Sherman , Edith ‘s first child, in 1954.*

*The gown has been worn by  Edith’s 6 children, 12 of her 13 grandchildren,(2 were baptized same day, so one child wore the gown and one wore a different outfit) . Edith  has now witnessed her 3 great grandchildren - Eloise, Amelia, and Holden - wearing this gown  here on Block Island.*

*Edith has lovingly stored and prepared this gown for  use by 3 generations of her family over the course of 67 years.*

**The First Baptist Church of Block Island**

Ministers to the World: All Members of the Harbor Church

Rev. Peter P. Preiser, Jr., Pastor

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Website: [www.harborchurchblockisland.org](http://www.harborchurchblockisland.org)

We are an affiliate of the American Baptist Churches, USA

*“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord,
as the waters cover the sea.” [Habakuk. 2:14]*