

Gilead Presbyterian Church

September 6, 2020; 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Convinced of God's Grace, we affirm that there can be no exclusiveness in the body of Christ. We welcome all regardless of race, ethnic heritage, national origin, age, ability, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic standing; and we encourage the full participation of all in the life of our congregation.

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

MEDITATION MUSIC

"All That I Am"
Mariah Warren, soloist

by William Himes

WELCOME

OPENING SCRIPTURE Psalms 149:1-4

Leader: Praise the LORD!

People: Assemble the faithful and sing to the LORD a new song!

Leader: Let us be glad and rejoice in our Maker!

People: Praise God our Creator with dancing, melody and music!

Leader: Our God takes pleasure in our song, and adorns us with deliverance.

BLUE HYMNAL #113 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!"

1. "Christ the Lord is risen today!" Alleluia!

All creation, join to say; Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia!

Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

2. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids Him rise; Alleluia!

Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

From our sins, mistakes, and unrepentance, God of forgiveness, deliver us.

From our quarreling, anger and arrogance, God of humility, deliver us.

From our division, segregation and apartheid, God of love, deliver us.

From our violence, hatred and rage, God of peace, deliver us.

From our greed, selfishness and unkindness, God of grace, deliver us.

From our despair, apathy and cynicism, God of hope, deliver us.

From our fear, faithlessness, and anxiety, God of strength, deliver us.

God, you are our All in All. Bring us into the Light. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† THE OFFERING – In gratitude for the abundance of heaven showered upon you, I invite you silently to meditate on how you can make an offering to the Lord in return for all God’s bounty in your life.

THE GLORIA

Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

SCRIPTURE READING Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no debt to anyone, except the debt that calls us to love one another; for one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love never wrongs anyone; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides, you know the time in which we are living. It is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us live honorably as in the daylight, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, let us clothe ourselves with the Savior Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of darkness.

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 18:15-20

¹⁵ "If your sister or brother commits some wrong against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If she or he listens to you, you have won a loved one back. ¹⁶ If not, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If your sister or brother refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Abba God in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

SERMON

“Fighting Fighting”

Rev. Martin McGeachy

WE SEAL THE WORD

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

All are invited to take bread and wine, or any substance that feels appropriate, and join from home, or prayerfully take in the sacrifice of the Lord symbolically.

INVITATION, PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

WE BEAR THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BLUE HYMNAL #447 "Lead On, O King Eternal"

- 1. Lead on, O King eternal, The day of march has come;
Henceforth in fields of conquest Thy tents shall be our home:
Through days of preparation Thy grace has made us strong,
And now, O King eternal, We lift our battle song.**
- 2. Lead on, O King eternal, Till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And holiness shall whisper The sweet amen of peace;
For not with swords' loud clashing, Nor roll of stirring drums;
With deeds of love and mercy The heavenly kingdom comes.**
- 3. Lead on, O King eternal: We follow, not with fears;
For gladness breaks like morning Where'er Thy face appears;
Thy cross is lifted o'er us; We journey in its light:
The crown awaits the conquest; Lead on, O God of might.**

BENEDICTION and PASSING OF THE PEACE

Peace be with you. Amen.

† We accept offerings through the "Online Giving" link on our website, www.gileadchurch.org, or mail checks made out to Gilead Presbyterian Church, 9 Church Street, Carmel, NY 10512. Or give elsewhere if you see a need. In doing so, we brighten the world, and brighten our hearts.

GILEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Martin McGeachy, Pastor
Mary Temple, Music Director
Diana Drake Behan, Church School Superintendent

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www.gileadchurch.org



