

Gilead Presbyterian Church
April 25, 2021; 4th Sunday of Easter, Year B

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.

WELCOME

OPENING MUSIC

"Adagio"
Mary Temple, organ

from "Symphony #5"
by P.I. Tchaikovsky

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SCRIPTURE from Psalms 23

Leader: The LORD is my shepherd. I shall never be in want.

People: The LORD restores my soul, and leads me in the right way.

Leader: Though I walk in the shadow of death, I fear no evil,

People: for the LORD is with me.

Leader: Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all my life,

People: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

BLUE HYMNAL #366 "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me"

**1. Jesus, Thy boundless love to me No thought can reach, no tongue declare;
O knit my thankful heart to Thee, And reign without a rival there!
Thine wholly, Thine alone, I'd live, Myself to Thee entirely give.**

**2. O grant that nothing in my soul May dwell, but Thy pure love alone;
O may Thy love possess me whole, My joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove; May every act, word, thought be love.**

PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we have strayed from your paths of right relationship and peace, and we have ignored your voice calling to us with love, forgiveness and grace. We have not been fruitful in caring for ourselves, our neighbors, and the whole of creation entrusted to our care. Help us to turn around, repent, and follow you. Forgive us, and guide us in the way of your Light. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶ We know love by this, that Jesus Christ laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷ How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸ Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹ And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts in the presence of God ²⁰ whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²² and we receive whatever we ask from God's hand, because we obey the commandments and do what is pleasing in God's sight. ²³ The commandments are these, that we should believe in the name of God's own, Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as we have been commanded. ²⁴ All who obey the commandments abide in God, and God abides in them. And by this we know that God abides in us, by the Spirit given to us.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 10:11-18

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down their life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away--and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as Abba God knows me and I know God. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ For this reason Abba God loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Loving God."

SERMON

"His Master's Voice"

Rev. Martin McGeachy



MEDITATION

“In Christ Alone”
Mariah Warren, soloist

by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 #215

“Come, Sing with Joy to God”

1. Come, sing with joy to God, Our Rock and Savior praise;
Come, enter in with shouts of joy, your voices raise.
O mighty God, You are the Lord, The God of gods by all adored.
3. Our God and Lord alone, Through all the years the same,
You feed us, take us by the hand, call each by name.
You are the shepherd, we the sheep; Lord, shelter us, our footsteps keep.

BENEDICTION and PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

"Pilgrims' Chorus"
Mary Temple, organ

from “Tannhauser”
by Richard Wagner

Thank you to our videographers this morning, Alexis and Stephanie Gould.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ▶ The church will reopen for worship starting Sunday, May 2, using the safety protocols that were in place last fall. Masks and social distancing will be required.
- ▶ Zoom Prayer each Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. The link is in the weekly bulletin email.
- ▶ PRPH is holding its annual Mother’s Day Plant Sale. Orders are due by April 30. See www.PRPHNY.org. Contact Mary Temple with dedications.
- ▶ A group is gathering at the church on Friday, April 30 at 7:00 p.m. to assemble feminine hygiene kits for the Food Pantry. Call Mary Temple at (845) 225-6958 for details.

† 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

9 Church Street
Carmel, NY 10512
(845) 225-4586

Follow us online! Visit our website for links to our social media and to subscribe to our email list!

www.gileadchurch.org

