

Gilead Presbyterian Church

August 15, 2021

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

PRELUDE

"Shall We Gather at the River"
Mary Temple, organ

by Robert Lowry

OPENING SCRIPTURE Psalms 33:1-3

Leader: Rejoice in the reign of God, O you righteous.

People: Praise adorns the upright in beauty.

Leader: Praise God with the lyre; make melody to God with the harp of ten strings.

People: Sing to the Beloved a new song;

Leader: play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

BLUE HYMNAL #466 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

**1. O for a thousand tongues to sing My dear Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of God's grace!**

**2. Jesus, the name that charms our fears, That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'Tis life, and health, and peace.**

**4. My gracious Master and my God, Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad The honors of Thy name.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, we place our hearts in yours, trusting in your mercy and power to transform our lives. We don't live as children of grace, for we don't live joyfully and fearlessly. We don't live as children of grace, for we don't offer the grace you have given us to others you have put in our lives. We don't live as children of grace, for we don't seek to follow in obedience all you have shown us. Shine your light into every dark corner of our lives, and show us every wall we have built to keep you and others out. In Christ's name we pray.

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 READINGS

I give you thanks, Beloved, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise.
Psalm 138:1

Day and night without ceasing they sing, "Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come."⁹ And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever,¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives forever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,¹¹ "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

Revelation 4:8b-11

God "laid the cornerstone of the earth"⁷ when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy."
Job 38:6b-7

Paul and Silas were seized and dragged into the marketplace before the authorities.²⁰ When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews²¹ and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe."²² The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods.²³ After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely.²⁴ Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.²⁶ Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened.²⁷ When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped.²⁸ But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here."²⁹ The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.³⁰ Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"³¹ They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."³² They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.³³ At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay.³⁴ He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.
Acts 16:19b-34

SERMON

"Keep Singing!"

Rev. Martin McGeachy

MEDITATION

"How Can I Keep from Singing?"

by Robert Lowry

arr. by Enya, Eithne Ni Bhraonain / Nicky Ryan / Roma Ryan
Mariah Warren, soloist

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 #288 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

- 1. I sing the mighty power of God That made the mountains rise;
That spread the flowing seas abroad And built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained The sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God's command, And all the stars obey.**
- 3. There's not a plant or flower below But makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, By order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee Is ever in Thy care,
And everywhere that we can be, Thou, God, art present there.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Marching to Zion"
Mary Temple, organ

by Robert Lowry

Thank you to our videographers, Alexis and Stephanie Gould.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ▶ The Food Pantry can use monetary donations, as well as all non-perishable foods and toiletries. Leave in the outside bin or call Martin for appointment.
- ▶ Prayer Zoom each Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. The link is in the weekly bulletin email.
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† *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

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Mary Temple, Music Director
Diana Drake Behan, Church School Superintendent

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

