

Gilead Presbyterian Church
October 17, 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

PURPLE HYMNAL #399 **“God Welcomes All”**
God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God’s love is strong and it never ends.

PRELUDE **“Morning Has Broken”** Bunessan, Scottish folk melody
Mary Temple, organ

OPENING SCRIPTURE 2 Corinthians 9:10-11
Leader: The Lord, who supplies seed to the sower and bread for our food
will supply and multiply our seed,
People: And the Lord will increase the harvest of our righteousness.
Leader: We will be enriched in every way for our great generosity,
which will produce Thanksgiving to God.
All: Thanks be to God for God=s indescribable gift!

PURPLE HYMNAL #822, BLUE #400 **“When We Are Living”**

2. Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

3. ’Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
when sensing beauty or in love’s embrace,
whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

4. Across this wide world, we shall always find
those who are crying with no peace of mind,
but when we help them, or when we feed them,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dearest Lord, you have given all things into our care, yet we focus our hearts on wanting more and more. You have promised to fill us, yet we insist on feasting upon the bread which does not satisfy. You have provided manna and quail in our wilderness, yet we still doubt you will be there for us. Open our eyes to the miracles of plenty that surround us. Forgive our lack of trust in you, and grant us faith in your sovereign goodness, that we may share from our abundance. In Christ's name we pray, 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

Bread, Bread, Bread by Ann Morris; photographs by Ken Heyman

SCRIPTURE READINGS

⁶ Is not this the [worship] that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. ⁹ Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. *Isaiah 58:6-10*

⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰ This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

⁵² The Temple authorities then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Chosen One and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵ for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Almighty God sent me, and I live because of the Almighty, so whoever eats me will live because of me.

⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." *John 6:22-58*

SERMON

"Be the Best Thing Since Sliced Bread"

Rev. Martin McGeachy

MEDITATION

"Whispering Hope"
Mary Temple, organ

by Alice Hawthorne

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.

HYMN

"Where Is Bread?"
tune: ABBOT'S LEIGH

text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

**"Where is bread?" the great crowd murmured--
Thousands strong, yet all in need.
"Where is bread?" your people wondered,
Faced with such a crowd to feed.
Who, Lord Jesus, could have guessed it?
One small boy brought food to share.
Taking what he gave, you blessed it;
All were fed, with much to spare.**

**Where is Bread? We know their yearning;
Every day, we wish for more.
God, in time, we're slowly learning:
All we own can make us poor.
Our possessions can possess us,
Leaving hunger deep inside.
Christ our Bread, come now and bless us;
At your feast, we're satisfied.**

**"Where is bread?" the call is rising;
Millions cry who must be fed.
God, your answer seems surprising:
"You, my Church, you give them bread."
Bread to fill each hungry spirit,
Bread for hungry stomachs, too!
Give us bread and help us share it.
Richly blest, may we serve you.**

© 2000. Carolyn Winfrey Gillette gives free one-time use of this hymn to congregations that support Church World Service.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"How Great Thou Art"
Mary Temple, organ

Swedish folk tune

Thank you to our videographers, Alexis and Stephanie Gould.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ▶ The Bell Choir will practice right after worship today.
- ▶ 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.
- ▶ The Deacons meet at 11:00 today in person and on Zoom.
- ▶ If you would like to build a Shoebox for Operation Christmas Child, find instructions at <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/>
- ▶ Join us for a family Halloween pot-luck picnic at 4:00 p.m., Saturday, October 30.
- ▶ Join us for Bible Study in the lounge or on Zoom beginning this Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

† 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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www.gileadchurch.org

