

Gilead Presbyterian Church

February 20, 2022

WELCOME

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.

OPENING MUSIC

"Air in G"
Mary Temple, organ

by J.S. Bach
arr. by Rick Parks

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Psalm 37

Leader: Take delight in the Most High Beloved, who satisfies the desires of your heart.

People: Commit your way to the Most High Beloved, and trust in God's ways.

Leader: Be still before the Most High Beloved, and wait patiently for the Unfolding.

People: God Almighty, Most High Beloved, is our salvation and refuge.

PURPLE HYMNAL #629

"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

1. Jesus, the very thought of thee with sweetness fills my breast.

But sweeter far thy face to see, and in thy presence rest.

**3. O hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek,
to those who fall, how kind thou art! How good to those who seek!**

**5. Jesus, our only joy be thou, as thou our prize wilt be.
Jesus, be thou our glory now, and through eternity.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your ways or trusted your promises. We love only those who love us; we show kindness only to those who are kind to us; we give only when we expect to receive. Forgive us, God of Kindness. Fill our hearts with your selfless love. Change our lives with your matchless grace. These things we pray through Christ our Savior. 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 READINGS

¹ Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers, ² for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb. ³ Trust in the Beloved God Almighty, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security. ⁴ Take delight in God, and God will give you the desires of your heart. ⁵ Commit your way to God Almighty; trust in God, and God will act, ⁶ and will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday. ⁷ Be still before the Almighty God, and wait patiently for the Divine unfolding; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices. ⁸ Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath. Do not fret—it leads only to evil. ⁹ For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for God Almighty shall inherit the land. ¹⁰ Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there. ¹¹ But the meek shall inherit the land, and delight themselves in abundant prosperity. *Psalm 37:1-11*

²⁷ "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³² If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for the Most High is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as our Gracious God is merciful. ³⁷ "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." *Luke 6:27-38*

SERMON

"Towards a Meek Faith"

Rev. Martin McGeachy

THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER DAMON POTENZA

PURPLE HYMNAL #300

"We Are One in the Spirit"

**1. We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:**

**Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

**2. We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: (Refrain)**

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.

PURPLE HYMNAL #756 "O God of Every Nation"

**1. O God of every nation, of every race and land,
redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand.
Where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us and heal our strife-torn world.**

**4. Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease,
when hatred and division give way to love and peace,
till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign
and Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**"St. Anthony's Chorale"
Mary Temple, organ**

**by Richard Wagner
arr. by Rick Parks**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ▶ Bake Sale part 2 today, Sunday, 2/20, pre-packaged items to be sold for \$5 a plate.
- ▶ Deacons meet today at 11:00.
- ▶ Bible Study on Zoom, Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. The link is in the weekly bulletin email.
- ▶ Weekly Wednesday 8:30 a.m. Zoom Prayer, on March 2 Prayer and Ashes.
- ▶ Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary and Facebook Live, 7:30 p.m.
- ▶ Gilead Bell Chimes rehearse right after worship today.

Thank you to our videographer, Stephanie Gould.

† *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



Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee 629

1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of thee
 2 Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,
 3 O hope of ev - ery con - trite heart,
 4 But what to those who find? Ah, this
 5 Je - sus, our on - ly joy be thou,

with sweet-ness fills my breast. But sweet - er far thy
 nor can the mind re - call a sweet - er sound than
 O joy of all the meek, to those who fall, how
 nor tongue nor pen can show. The love of Je - sus,
 as thou our prize wilt be. Je - sus, be thou our

face to see, and in thy pres - ence rest.
 thy blest name, O Sav - ior of us all.
 kind thou art! How good to those who seek!
 what it is none but his loved ones know.
 glo - ry now, and through e - ter - ni - ty.

The sweetness celebrated in this anonymous 12th-century Latin poem is not cloying or sentimental; it is more like an antidote to bitterness and a source of hope and healing. The best-known 19th-century translation is set here to a tune composed especially for these words.

TEXT: Latin hymn, 12th cent.; trans. Edward Caswall, 1849, alt.
 MUSIC: John Bacchus Dykes, 1866, alt.

ST. AGNES
 CM

We Are One in the Spirit 300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Capo 1: (Em) Fm (Bm) Cm (Em) Fm

1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
 2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
 3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
 4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,

(Am) B^bm (Em) Fm

we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
 we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
 we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
 and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,

(Am) B^bm (Em) Fm

and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
 and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
 and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
 and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain (C) D^b (Em) Fm

And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our

(Am) B^bm (Em) Fm (Am) B^bm (Bm) Cm (Em) Fm (Am/E) B^bm/F (Em) Fm

love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.

O God of Every Nation 756

1 O God of ev - ery na - tion, of ev - ery race and land,
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
 3 Lord, strength-en those who la - bor that all may find re - lease
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

re - deem the whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand.
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

Where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,
 when hope and cour - age fal - ter, your still small voice be heard;
 till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and jus - tice reign

in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
 de - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

If we truly believe that God cares for all people, we cannot limit our prayers and songs for peace to the welfare of our own nation, no matter how much we may love it. This challenging text is set to a stirring Welsh tune, named for a hamlet with a prominent Baptist chapel.

TEXT: William W. Reid Jr., 1958, alt.
 MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; *Llwybrau Moliant*, 1872; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906
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