



Gilead Presbyterian Church
March 2, 2022
7:30 p.m.

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

"Come Unto Him"
Mary Temple, organ

by J. H. Maunder
arr. by Benton Price
from the cantata "Olivet to Calvary"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 58:5-8

Leader: Is this the fast that I choose, says the Almighty, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Is this a fast acceptable to God?

People: Is not this the fast that our God has chosen: to loose the bonds of injustice, to let the oppressed go free, to share our bread with the hungry, provide shelter for the homeless, and clothing for the naked?

Leader: Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, and the glory of the Almighty shall be your rear guard.

PURPLE HYMNAL #688

"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"

1. Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;

Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;

Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art,

And make me love Thee as I ought to love.

4. Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love,

One holy passion filling all my frame;

The baptism of the heaven descended Dove,

My heart an altar, and Thy love the flame.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UNISON OPENING PRAYER

Spirit Divine, we welcome you into our hearts and minds. Guide our thinking, feeling and acting, that in our worship and praise we might sacrifice ourselves to

you, letting go of all that stands in the way of our living lives of grace, mercy, and peace. Guide us in reflection, penitence, and renewal, that we might begin our Lenten journey toward resurrection in the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Joel 2:12-17

¹² Yet even now, says the Almighty, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³ rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. ¹⁴ Who knows whether the Almighty will not turn and relent, and leave behind a blessing, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Beloved, your God? ¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶ gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the newlyweds leave their room, abandon their canopy. ¹⁷ Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Almighty, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O God, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, "Where is their God?"

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION Psalm 51

Against you, you alone, have I sinned, O God, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. Dear God, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a humble spirit; a humble and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

SILENT PRAYER

AFFIRMATION OF FORGIVENESS

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

¹ "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from God in heaven. ² "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret; and your God who sees in secret will reward you. ⁵ "And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to God who is in secret; and God who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶ "And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your God who is in secret; and

your God who sees in secret will reward you. ¹⁹ "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

MESSAGE

"Awareness"

Rev. Martin McGeachy

MEDITATION

"Amazing Grace"
Mary Temple, organ

adapted by Willis Ray

PASTORAL PRAYER and 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.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Leader: Our ancestors in the faith used ashes as a sign of our repentance, a symbol of the uncertainty and fragility of human life. Like them, we have tasted the ashes of hopelessness; we have walked through the ashes of our loss and pain; we have stood knee-deep in the ashes of our brokenness.

People: God of our lives, out of the dust of creation you have formed us and given us life. May these ashes not only be a sign of our repentance and death, but reminders that by your gift of grace in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, we are granted life forever with you. Amen.

(The congregation is invited to mark their foreheads with the sign of the cross, or come forward to receive ashes.)

PURPLE HYMNAL #442

"Just as I Am, Without One Plea"

- 1. Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou biddest me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**
- 2. Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!**
- 3. Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

CLOSING PRAYER

PURPLE HYMNAL #39

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

- 3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

**Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

BENEDICTION and PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

POSTLUDE

“Meditation on Songs of the Cross”
Mary Temple, organ

by Robert Hughes



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ▶ Bible Study on Zoom, Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. The link is in the weekly bulletin email. Beginning March 16, Bible Study will shift to Wednesdays at 7:30.
- ▶ Weekly Wednesday 8:30 a.m. Zoom Prayer; the link is in the weekly bulletin email.
- ▶ Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary and Facebook Live, 7:30 p.m. March 2.
- ▶ Bell Chimes will play next Sunday, March 6.
- ▶ Gilead Singers will rehearse this Sunday after worship.

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



Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart 688

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3 Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;
 4 Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh.
 5 Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,

wean it from earth; through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
 Teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;

stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - pening skies;
 I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
 to check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh.
 the bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed Dove,

and make me love thee as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
 Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
 my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

This reflection on Galatians 5:25 was written by a literary Anglican clergyman whose preaching drew people of many social classes to one of the formerly poorer London churches. The tune was created for "Abide with Me" (no. 836) but more often appears with the present text.

TEXT: George Croly, 1867
 MUSIC: Frederick Cook Atkinson, 1870

MORECAMBE
 10.10.10.10

FORGIVENESS

442 Just as I Am, without One Plea

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that thy
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - ya
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come,
 4 Just as I am, thy love un-known has bro - ken

blood was shed for me, and that thou biddest me
 con - flict, man - ya doubt, fight - ings and fears with -
 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise
 ev - ery bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea,

come to thee,
 in, with - out,
 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!
 thine a - lone,

SPANISH

1 *Tal como soy de pecador,
 sin más confianza que tu amor;
 a tu llamada vengo a ti,
 ¡Cordero de Dios, heme aquí!*

KOREAN

1 큰-죄에 빠-진 날 위해
 주보-혈 흘려주시고
 또-나를 오-라하시니-
 주께로거-저갑니다

When illness limited her involvement in a bustling household, the author wrote this hymn that helped her both to achieve and to express a renewed sense of worth grounded in Christ's self-giving. Its simple, direct, and deeply felt language has made it a source of comfort to many.

TEXT: Charlotte Elliott, 1834, alt.; Spanish trans. Tomás M. Westrup, alt.; Korean trans. anon.
 MUSIC: William Batchelder Bradbury, 1849; harm. *The Hymnbook*, 1955
 Korean Trans. © The Hymnal Society of Korea
 Music Harm. © 1955, ren. 1983 John Ribble (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

WOODWORTH
 LM

39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22-23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

TEXT: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923
 MUSIC: William Marion Runyan, 1923
 Text and Music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company

FAITHFULNESS
 11.10.11.10 with refrain

