

Gilead Presbyterian Church
October 23, 2022, 10:00 a.m.
Proper 25, Year C



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

"His Eye Is on the Sparrow"
Mary Temple, organ

by Charles Gabriel
arr. by Fred Boch

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Leader: Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,

People: They shall mount up with wings like eagles,

Leader: They shall run and not be weary,

People: They shall walk and not faint.

(Isaiah 40:31)

Leader: Give praise to God the Almighty, by whose great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. *(1Pet. 1:3)*

*PURPLE HYMNAL #837

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"

**1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**Refrain: Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**2. O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**Refrain: Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**Refrain: Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER

Psalm 61:1-2

Hear my prayer, O God; listen to my prayer. From the end of the earth I call to you, when my heart is faint. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*THE GLORIA

Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: Peace be with you. **People: And also with you.**

ANTHEM

“Jesus, I Come”
Gilead Singers

SCRIPTURE

¹ When Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ² So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. ³ Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴ And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Child, your sins are forgiven." ⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷ "Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ⁸ At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'? ¹⁰ But so that you may know that the Chosen One has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic— ¹¹ "I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home." ¹² And the man stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Mark 2:1-12

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

The children are dismissed to Sunday School.

SCRIPTURE

¹³ Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴ Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. *James 5:13-16*

SERMON

“Faith Healing”

Rev. Martin McGeachy

THE SYMBOLIC LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING

***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.**

**2. Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame, nor can the mind recall
a sweeter sound than thy blest name, O Savior of us all.**

**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!**

**4. But what to those who find? Ah, this nor tongue nor pen can show.
The love of Jesus, what it is none but his loved ones know.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, 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 OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“The Broken Vessel”

words & music by Andraé Crouch

Mary Temple, organ

arr. by Fred Boch

***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.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***PURPLE HYMNAL #852**

“When the Lord Redeemed the Very Least”

1. When the Lord redeems the very least, we will rejoice.

When the hungry gather for the feast, we will rejoice.

Refrain: We will rejoice with gladness. We will rejoice.

All our days we’ll sing to God in praise. We will rejoice!

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine 837

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

1 What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 2 O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 last-ing arms; what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,
 last-ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last-ing arms? I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,
 lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms. *Refrain* Lean-ing,
 Lean-ing on Je-sus,
 lean-ing, safe and se-cure from all a-larms; lean-ing on
 Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.

The composer of the tune (and creator of the refrain) asked the author of the stanzas to write a hymn based on the latter part of Deuteronomy 33:27 (as worded in the King James Version): "Underneath are the everlasting arms." Their joint effort has proved very popular.

TEXT: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887
 MUSIC: Anthony J. Showalter, 1887

SHOWALTER
 10.9.10.9 with refrain

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.

852 When the Lord Redeems the Very Least

1 When the Lord re - deems the ver - y least,
2 When the Lord re - stores the sick and weak, we will re -
3 When the Lord re - vives the world from death, we will re-joyce, will re -
4 When the Lord re - turns in vic - to - ry,

joyce.
joyce, will re-joyce. When the hun - gry gath - er for the feast,
When the earth is giv - en to the meek,
When the word of God fills ev - ery breath,
When we live in glo - rious lib - er - ty,

Refrain

we will re-joyce. We will re-
we will re-joyce, will re-joyce, will re-joyce. We will re-joyce, will re-

What does it mean to pray "thy kingdom come"? This text (loosely modeled on Psalm 126) sketches out some of the features that help us to know when God's reign has truly come. The energy of the gospel song tune adds to the sense of rejoicing repeatedly promised in this text.

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

joyce with glad-ness. We will re-joyce.
joyce with glad-ness. We will re-joyce, will re-joyce with glad-ness. All our

We will re-joyce!
days we'll sing to God in praise. We will re-joyce, will re-joyce, will re-joyce!