

# GILEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic standing; and we encourage the full participation of all in the life of our congregation.

Sunday, April 23, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Easter, Year A

## WELCOME

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

People: He is Risen indeed!

## OPENING MUSIC

"Symphony #1"  
Mary Temple, Organ

by Johannes Brahms

## OPENING SCRIPTURE Psalms 31:1-5

Leader: In you, O LORD, we seek refuge.

People: **Be a rock of refuge for us, a strong fortress to save us.**

Leader: You are indeed our rock and our fortress;

People: **For your name's sake lead us and guide us.**

Leader: You are indeed our refuge.

People: **Into your hands we commit our spirits.**

## \*PURPLE HYMNAL # 246

"Christ Is Alive!" vss. 1,3,4,5

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING PRAYER

### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, who has empowered us with all we need to reach out to you and one another; we confess that we resist the forces of your Spirit among us; that we are slow to serve you, and reluctant to spread the good news of your love. Forgive our divisions, and by your Spirit draw us together. Help us to break down barriers that separate us. In flame us with a desire to do your will and be your faithful people; for the sake of your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.**

## 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

“Adagio from Sonata in E Minor“  
Juergen Tempel, Cello

by Benedetto Marcello

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

*The children are dismissed to Sunday School.*

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

<sup>54</sup> When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen.

<sup>55</sup> But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Chosen One standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup> But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup> Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

<sup>60</sup> Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died. *Acts 7:54-60*

<sup>1</sup> "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Abba God's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going." <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Almighty God except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Abba also. From now on you do know and have seen God." <sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Almighty, and we will be satisfied." <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Almighty. How can you say, 'Show us the Almighty'?" <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in my Abba and my Abba is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but it is Abba, living in me, who is accomplishing the works of God. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in God and God is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works I do. <sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to my Abba. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it. *John 14:1-14*

SERMON

“Praying in Jesus”

Rev. Martin McGeachy

**\*PURPLE HYMNAL # 840**

**“When Peace Like a River”**

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.**

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”  
Gilead Singers

Spiritual by Ken Medema

**\*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 # 239**

**“Good Christians, All, Rejoice and Sing!”**

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

“For God so Loved the World”

POSTLUDE

“Spring” (From the Four Seasons)  
Mary Temple, organ

by Antonio Vivaldi

\*The congregation is invited to stand. **BOLD:** Congregation responds/sings.

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*The flowers today were given anonymously to the glory of God  
In honor of Gilead member Annina Celli.*

*Thank you to our Lay Reader today, Cindy Kosacz,  
and our videographer, Stephanie Gould.*

## **This Week at Gilead**

Today Sunday, April 23

- 9:10 a.m. Gilead Singers rehearse.
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship.
- Following worship, join us for coffee and fellowship.
- Deacons meet following worship

Monday, April 24

- 11 a.m. Stretch Exercise Class

Tuesday, April 25

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Wednesday, April 26

- No Morning Prayer or Bible Study this week while Pastor Martin is on vacation. See you next Wednesday!

Thursday, April 27

- 11:00 a.m. Stretch Exercise Class

Friday, April 28

- 10:00 a.m. Gilead Food Pantry

Sunday, April 30

- 9:10 a.m. Gilead Singers rehearse.
- 10:00 a.m. Worship. Welcome Rev. Casey Carbone to the pulpit!
- Following worship, join us for coffee and fellowship.

Pastor Martin will be on vacation at a family reunion in North Carolina April 25-May 1.  
May 14 - Mother's Day, 8:40 Gilead Bell Chimes

*We accept offerings through the "Online Giving" link on our website, [www.gileadchurch.org](http://www.gileadchurch.org), or mail checks to Gilead Presbyterian Church, 9 Church Street, Carmel, NY 10512.*

### **GILEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Rev. Martin McGeachy, Pastor  
Mary Temple, Music Director  
Diana Drake Behan, Church School Superintendent

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[www.gileadchurch.org](http://www.gileadchurch.org)

