# 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, September 24, 2023, 10:00 a.m. 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

We welcome Deb Milcarek, General Presbyter of Hudson River Presbytery to the pulpit today!

**OPENING MUSIC** 

"Children of the Heavenly Father"
Mary Temple, organ

Swedish Melody arr. by Dan Hustad

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Psalm 133

Leader: God desires in our community a common sense of unity and purpose.

People: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

Leader: Let us answer the call of God. This is the day the Lord has made!

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

\*PURPLE HYMNAL #702

"Christ Be Beside Me"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OPENING PRAYER** 

# **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. <sup>3</sup> It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

#### 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.

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

The children are dismissed to Sunday School.

ANTHEM

"I Know Whom I Have Believed"
Gilead Singers

by D.W. Whittle and James McGranahan

#### SCRIPTURE

<sup>1</sup> Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Genesis 12:1-3

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup> He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority." <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup> They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Acts 1:6-11

SERMON "What's Next?" Deborah Milcarek

# \*PURPLE HYMNAL #697

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

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 OFFFRING

OFFERTORY

"Andante" from "Sonata in E Minor"
Juergen Tempel, cello

by Benedetto Marcello

#### \*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 #700

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

"What Does the Lord Require of You?"
Gilead Singers

POSTLUDE

"Grand Recessional" from "Alcesté"

by Christopher W. Glück

Mary Temple, organ arr. by Rick Parks

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

Thank you to our Lay Reader today, Duane Stroud-Boutté, and our videographers, Alexis & Stephanie Gould.

### This Week at Gilead

# Today Sunday, September 24

- 9:10 a.m. Gilead Singers rehearse.
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship.
- Following worship, join us for coffee and fellowship in the lounge.

### Monday, September 25

11 a.m. Stretch Exercise Class

### Wednesday, September 26

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer on Zoom; the link is in the weekly email.

# Thursday, September 27

11:00 a.m. Stretch Exercise Class

## Friday, September 28

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Gilead Food Pantry

# Sunday, October 1

- 9:10 a.m. Gilead Singers rehearse.
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship. Message given by Deacon Redd Behan.
- Following worship, join us for coffee and fellowship.
- Note: Communion Sunday will be held Sunday, October 15th.

We accept offerings through the "Online Giving" link on our website, www.gileadchurch.org, or mail checks to Gilead Presbyterian Church, 9 Church Street, Carmel, NY 10512

#### GILEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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