

# 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 3, 2023, 10:00 a.m.  
14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, Year A

OPENING MUSIC

"Medley for Labor Day"  
Mary Temple, organ

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Psalm 118:24

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made!

**People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**\*PURPLE HYMNAL #12**

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of compassion, in Jesus Christ we behold your transforming light, yet we continue to live in darkness. Preoccupied with ourselves, we fail to see your work in the world. We speak when we should listen, we act when we should reflect. Empower us to live in your light and to walk in your ways, for the sake of him who is the light of the world, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

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

"Just a Little Talk With Jesus"  
Gilead Singers

by Cleavant Derricks

## TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

*The children are dismissed to Sunday School.*

### SCRIPTURE

<sup>1</sup> Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup> Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. <sup>3</sup> The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." <sup>4</sup> Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. <sup>5</sup> The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." <sup>6</sup> Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. <sup>7</sup> Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup> Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. <sup>9</sup> When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." <sup>10</sup> He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." <sup>11</sup> As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup> Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

*2 Kings 2:1-12*

<sup>2</sup> ...Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup> and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup> And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup> He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup> Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" <sup>8</sup> Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. <sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Chosen One had risen from the dead.

*Mark 9:2-9*

SERMON

"Loving Change"

Rev. Martin McGeachy

**\*PURPLE HYMNAL #298**

**“Lord, You Give the Great Commission” vss.1,3,5**

THE OFFERING  
OFFERTORY

“Under His Wings”  
Gilead Singers

text: William O. Cushing  
music: Ira D. Sankey

**\*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**

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

*For those joining virtually, all are invited to partake of bread and wine or any substance that feels appropriate; or take in the sacrifice of the Lord symbolically. For those joining physically, the individual Communion sets contain juice; in the trays the red is wine and the yellow is juice.*

INVITATION, PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING OF THE BREAD, SHARING OF THE CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC

“Break Thou the Bread of Life”  
Gilead Singers

William F. Sherwin

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 #69**

**“Here I Am, Lord”**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION**

“May the God of Hope Go with Us”

POSTLUDE

“Thine is the Glory”

by Robert Hughes

based on “Judas Maccabaeus” by G. F. Handel

Mary Temple, organ

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

*Thank you to our Lay Reader today, Cindy Kosacz,  
and our videographers, Stephanie & Alexis Gould.*

## This Week at Gilead

Today Sunday, September 3

- 9:15 a.m. Gilead Singers rehearse.
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship.
- Following worship, join us for coffee and fellowship.
- Please Sign up in the lounge for a pot-luck dish to share next week.
- Senior Bell Chimes rehearse after worship.

Monday, September 4

- 11 a.m. Stretch Exercise Class

Wednesday, September 6

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

Thursday, September 7

- 11:00 a.m. Stretch Exercise Class

Friday, September 8

- 10:00 a.m. to noon. Gilead Food Pantry

Sunday, September 10

- 8:40 a.m. Gilead Bell Chimes Rehearsal
- 9:10 a.m. Gilead Singers Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship

**Session has called a special congregational meeting to vote on the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Rev. Martin McGeachy and Gilead Presbyterian Church. The meeting will be held directly after worship on Sunday, September 10th, in the Sanctuary. Following this meeting, join us for a celebration of Martin's ministry with us! Please bring a favorite dish to share.**

*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

9 Church Street  
Carmel, NY 10512  
(845) 225-4586

**Follow us online! Visit our website for links to our social media and to subscribe to our email list!**

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

