

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

Sunday, February 18, 2024, 10:00 a.m.  
First Sunday in Lent, Year B

*We welcome Elder Duane Stroud-Boulté to the pulpit today!*

OPENING MUSIC "Precious Lord Take My Hand" by Thomas Dorsey and George Allen  
Mary Temple, organ

*During the opening music, let us quiet the noise from outside, cease our conversation with the world, and begin listening for the music of God's voice.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Psalm 25:1-2, 4-5)

Leader: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**People: O my God, in you I trust.**

Leader: Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

**People: Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.**

**\*PURPLE HYMNAL #482 "Baptized in Water"**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy God, we ask for your help, your power, your Spirit, so that we can amend our lives and grow more each day into the image of Christ. We confess that we fear what is different. We confess that it seems easier to lock the doors of our community than to receive those we see as different from us. We confess that we have not lived out your call to share in abundant life and unconditional love. We humbly ask that you give us the courage to change, and the energy, imagination, and love to be your people in all we say and do. Amen.

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

"Great Day"  
Gilead Singers

African-American Spiritual

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

*The children are dismissed to Sunday School.*

SCRIPTURE

<sup>8</sup>Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” <sup>12</sup>God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.”

*Genesis 9:8-16*

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

*1 Peter 3:18-22*

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” <sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. <sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested,

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