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, March 10, 2024, 10:00 a.m. Fourth Sunday in Lent, Year B

We welcome Elder Paul Francis to the pulpit today!

OPENING MUSIC

"God So Loved the World" Mary Temple, organ by John Stainer arr. by Lawrence Grant

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 (Psalm 95)

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

People: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Leader: For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods.

People: In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.

Leader: The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. **People: O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!**

All: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Amen.

*GRAY HYMNAL #369 "O Jesus, Have I Promised"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, hear our confession: We open our hearts to you, these hearts that bear our burdens of sin, omission, fear, envy, and our darkest desires. We ask for

your forgiveness. We pray for your holy spirit that can lift these burdens from us, and the grace of your love that can turn us from our sin and into your purpose. The path that your son, our Lord Jesus Christ, called us to walk and live. That we may be free from sin, that we may truly love one another as Christ has loved us. That we may follow him with clean hearts and minds. In this, we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

"There's A Light A-Comin'" Gilead Singers by David Lantz

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

The children are dismissed to Sunday School.

SCRIPTURE

⁵ Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 5:1-11

⁵¹ When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival, ⁵³ but they did not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" ⁵⁵ But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then they went on to another village.⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." ⁵⁹ To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." ⁶⁰ And Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." ⁶¹ Another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." ⁶² And Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God." *Luke 9:51-62*

SERMON

"The Journey Forward"

Elder Paul Francis

*GRAY HYMNAL #461

"He Leadeth Me"

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

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" Gilead Singers Folk Melody of India arr. by Eugene Thomas

*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

"PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*GRAY HYMNAL #483

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE"May the Lord Bless You and Keep You"by Peter C. LutkinMary Temple, organarr. by Lawrence Grant

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

Thank you to our Lay Reader today, Mariah Warren and our videographer, Billy Stroud-Boutté.

The Chancel flowers are given today in memory of Jenny Temple and in celebration of Lucy Temple's birthday by Mary Temple.

This Week at Gilead

1st Sunday of Daylight Savings Time (Spring Forward)

- 9:10 a.m. Gilead Singers rehearse.
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship.
- Following worship, join us for coffee/fellowship in the lounge.
- 11:15 a.m. Deacons Meeting

• Last day to order dedicated Easter Lilies (\$16 ea.). Please see Mariah Warren to order. Monday, March 11

• 11:00 a.m. Stretch Exercise Class.

Wednesday, March 13

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

Thursday, March 14

- 11:00 a.m. Stretch Exercise Class.
- 6:30 p.m. Gilead Singers rehearsal.

Friday, March 15

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

Sunday, March 17- Elder Duane Stroud-Boutté, preaching.

- 9:15 a.m. Gilead Singers rehearse.
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship.
- 11:15 a.m., Bible Study. We'll be deciding what we'd like to study together.
- 4:00 7:00 p.m. St. Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage dinner, Patterson Community Church. For more information, please see the flyer in the lounge.

Upcoming:

Our March mission is the Mahopac Women's Resource Center. See the flyer posted in the lounge for a list of needed items.

Tuesday, March 19th- Stated Session meeting in the lounge.

Thursday, March 28th- Maundy Thursday Seder Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Please sign-up in the lounge.

Friday, March 29^{th} - Good Friday Church open for prayer, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Tenebrae Service, 7:30 p.m.

GILEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Today Sunday, March 10