This Week at Gilead

Today, Sunday, September 8

- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship.
- Following worship, join us for coffee/fellowship in the lounge.

Monday, September 9

• 11:00 a.m. Stretch Exercise Class.

Tuesday, September 10

6:30 p.m. Stated Session Meeting

Wednesday, September 11

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

Thursday, September 12

- 11:00 a.m. Stretch Exercise Class.
- 7:00 p.m. Gilead Singers rehearse. New voices welcome!

Friday, September 13

- 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Gilead Food Pantry.
- "Paint with Tina" Fundraiser Party at 6:30 p.m. Limited seating. \$30 per person.

Sunday, September 15

- 9:15 a.m. Gilead Singers rehearse.
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship. Rev. Ray Bagnuolo, preaching.
- Rally Day! Welcome back, church school!

Upcoming:

Saturday, September 21 – Celebration of the life of Warren Behan

Sunday, September 22 - Gilead Bell Chimes rehearse at 8:30 a.m.

Sunday, September 29 - Bible Study resumes. Please read chapter 1 of "Love Carved in Stone."

<u>September Mission:</u> The Gilead Food Pantry needs boxes of cereal and so we will be having a cereal box domino challenge this month. Stay tuned for more details!

GILEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 Church Street, Carmel, NY 10512

(845) 225-4586 gileadpresbyterian@gmail.com
Mary Temple, Music Director Diana Drake Behan, Church School Superintendent
Lexie Fischer, Office Assistant Office Hours: Wednesdays 9:30 – 12:30

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

www.gileadchurch.org

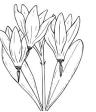
GILEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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, September 8, 2024, 10:00 a.m. Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

We welcome Rev. Ken Godshall to the pulpit today!



OPENING MUSIC

"Come Christians Join to Sing"

arranged by Don Hustad

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 (Isaiah 35)

One: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad.

All: The desert shall rejoice and bloom.

One: Like the crocus, it shall blossom abundantly,

All: and rejoice with joy and singing.
One: They shall see the glory of the Lord.

All: The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it.

All: Let us worship God.

*PURPLE HYMNAL #20 "All TI

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your way. You call us to seek justice, yet we abuse and ignore the poor. You call us to show mercy, yet we turn away from those in need. Forgive us, God of grace. Give us the wisdom and courage to abandon our places of privilege, and to show our faith in action; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Just as Jesus made the deaf to hear and the mute to speak, our merciful God lifts our burdens from us, removes the failure of our past, and turns us to new life.

Congregation: God is good to all, and has compassion for all creation.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

*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 "Let All Things Now Living"

Mariah Warren, recorder

Welsh folk melody

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

The children are dismissed to Sunday School.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

²⁴ From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶ Now the woman was a gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷ He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸ But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹ Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰ And when she went home, she found the child lying on the bed and the demon gone. 31 Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went by way of Sidon toward the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. 32 They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³ He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. 34 Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." 35 And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one, but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

Mark 7:24-37

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD,

the majesty of our God. ³ Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; ⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool and the

thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

Isaiah 35: 1-7

MESSAGE "Make the Desert Bloom" Rev. Ken Godshall

*PURPLE HYMNAL #250 "In the Bulb there is a Flower"

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.

CONG. RESPONSE (PURPLE HYMNAL #469) "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

THE OFFERING
OFFERTORY- PURPLE HYMNAL #302 "When Hands Reach Out"
(Congregation sings)

*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.

*PURPLE HYMNAL #451 "Open My Eyes that I May See"

*BENEDICTION

*MUSICAL BENEDICTION "Amen" (three-fold)

POSTLUDE "Pilgrims Chorus" by Richard Wagner Mary Temple, organ

Thank you to our Lay Reader today, Brenda Verdesi, and our videographers, Lexie Fischer and Stephanie Gould.

Our Sanctuary flowers this week are given by the Warren family in Thanksgiving for God's blessings.

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