

Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church



*Welcome to Worship at
Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church!*

*Our faith community extends a warm welcome to
all worshipping with us today and hopes that you
will return often.*

Welcoming All, Serving Christ, Transforming Lives

The Service for the Lord's Day;
23rd Sunday after Pentecost; November 8, 2020
Our vocalists today are Gail Midkiff and Jim Glass.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS this Sunday are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Alma and Harold Webb & Ruth and Gunner Gray by the Webb family.

CHIMING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

Rev. Nancy Dawson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Nancy Dawson

PASSING OF THE PEACE

As you are seated, turn to someone seated near you and
share the ancient words of the church: *"the peace of Christ be with you "*, respond: *"And also with you."*

PRELUDE

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

arr. Parks

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Steve Hubbard, Liturgist

L: The earth and all that is in it belongs to God.

P: God has created all things on the earth below and in the heavens above.

L: God has given us life and given us new life in Christ.

*P: We praise God for these many blessings. We open our hands to receive God's good gifts. We offer our
lives in gratitude to God.*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Steve Hubbard, Liturgist

Most astounding God, you lead us through deserts and grant us safe crossings. You save us from trouble and deliver us from distress. You satisfy our hunger and quench our thirst with righteousness and mercy. When we lose our way, you pull us back to you and overwhelm us with love. All honor and glory are yours, our master, our teacher, our friend. Amen.

HYMN #366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion;
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.

2 Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;

let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.
3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,

pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

4 Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Steve Hubbard, Liturgist

God turns the desert into pools of water and guides those who have gone astray. Let us confess to God the depth of our need, that we may be saved from trouble.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Steve Hubbard, Liturgist

God, we admit that it is easy to forget that we belong to you. Surrounded by so much “stuff” and bombarded by the messages of the world, we are seduced into serving things and ourselves rather than you. We cease to be open to your call in our lives. Turn us around again to walk in your ways and to live as you desire. In the name of the one who frees us from these sins, Amen.

(Please take a moment of silence for personal confession and reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Steve Hubbard, Liturgist

Sisters and brothers, God has made a way where there was no way. In Christ Jesus evil and death have been vanquished, and we live in a state of grace. Believe the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Choral Response Hymn # 35

Praise Ye The Lord, The Almighty

1 Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear,
now to his temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!

2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen
how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen
sound from his people again;
gladly for aye we adore him.

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25

Sally Sease, Lector

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. "Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God." But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

ANTHEM

What Is the World Like

Hymn #771

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:1-13

Nancy Dawson

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

SERMON

Choose This Day

Nancy Dawson

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In life and death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God,
whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in God the Father, creator of heaven and earth.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God, who proclaimed the good news of God and called all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil and delivering us from death to life eternal.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, the giver and renewer of life who
binds us together with all believers in every time and place in the one body of Christ, the Church.

We therefore can rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

HYMN #688

Spirit of God Descend upon my Heart

1 Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth; through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.
2 I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.
3 Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;
all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?

I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
4 Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh.
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh.
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.
5 Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame;
the baptism of the heaven-descended Dove,
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

We give because we need to give – to express in a tangible way what our priorities are. We give in response to God's love and grace. We give to witness and share the joy of loving God. We worship you, O God, with all that we are and all that we have. AMEN

HYMN #12

Who Is On the Lord's Side?

1. Who is on the Lord's side? Who will serve the King?
Who will be His helpers, other lives to bring?
Who will leave the world's side? Who will face the foe?
Who is on the Lord's side? Who for Him will go?
By Thy call of mercy, by Thy grace divine,
We are on the Lord's side—Savior, we are Thine!
2. Not for weight of glory, nor for crown and palm,
Enter we the army, raise the warrior psalm;
But for love that claimeth lives for whom He died:
He whom Jesus saveth marches on His side.
By Thy love constraining, by Thy grace divine,
We are on the Lord's side—Savior, we are Thine!
3. Jesus, Thou hast bought us, not with gold or gem,
But with Thine own lifeblood, for Thy diadem;
With Thy blessing filling each who comes to Thee,

Thou hast made us willing, Thou hast made us free.
By Thy grand redemption, by Thy grace divine,
We are on the Lord's side—Savior, we are Thine!
4. Fierce may be the conflict, strong may be the foe,
But the King's own army none can overthrow;
'Round His standard ranging, vict'ry is secure,
For His truth unchanging makes the triumph sure.
Joyfully enlisting, by Thy grace divine,
We are on the Lord's side—Savior, we are Thine!
5. Chosen to be soldiers, in an alien land,
Chosen, called, and faithful, for our Captain's band;
In the service royal, let us not grow cold,
Let us be right loyal, noble, true and bold.
Master, wilt Thou keep us, by Thy grace divine,
Always on the Lord's side—Savior, always Thine!

BENEDICTION

Nancy Dawson

POSTLUDE

Live Into Hope

arr. Ritter