

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;
15th Sunday after Pentecost; September 13, 2020

Our vocalist today is Bob Beilfus.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS this Sunday are given in glory of God and in loving memory of Carolyn Womack's parents, Thomas W. & Madeline R. Cyrus, Carolyn's brother Bruce Cyrus and Reuben Womack's parents, James & Josephine Womack.

CHIMING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

Rev. Nancy Dawson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Nancy Dawson

PASSING OF THE PEACE

As you are seated, the right side of the sanctuary will turn to the left side of the sanctuary and share the ancient words of the church: *"the peace of Christ be with you "*

Then the left side of the sanctuary will turn while seated and respond: *"And also with you."*

PRELUDE

Surely the Presence

arr. Wolfe

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bob Beilfus, Liturgist

L: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, The world and those who live in it;

P: For he has founded it on the seas, And established it on the rivers.

L: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord and stand in God's holy place?

P: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts. They will receive blessings from the Lord.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God who is our strength, you have protected us from those who would seek to oppress us. You have shielded us from those who would seek to destroy the good gifts you have put in us. Your love and power never fail. Thanks and praise to you, our safety and stronghold. We exalt you, O God, majestic in holiness, for there is none like you. Amen.

HYMN #438

Rock of Ages

1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.
Let the water and the blood
from thy wounded side which flowed
be of sin the double cure,
cleansing from guilt and make me pure.

2 Not the labors of my hands
can fulfill thy law's demands.
Could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone.
Thou must save, and thou alone.

3 Nothing in my hand I bring;
simply to thy cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress,
helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.

4 While I draw this fleeting breath,
when my eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown,
see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Bob Beilfus, Liturgist

Let us confess our sins to God who forgives and saves.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, you are full of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in mercy, always ready to forgive. We confess that we are too ready to condemn others and too quick to forget our own faults. Grant us grace to trust your mercy and to show your love to others. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

People of God, our sins are forgiven. God is merciful and gracious and is Lord of us all. Reconciled to the God who loves us, let us live and love through Christ our Lord.

Choral Response Hymn #432

How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord

1 How clear is our vocation, Lord,
when once we heed your call
to live according to your word
and daily learn, refreshed, restored,
that you are Lord of all
and will not let us fall.

2 But if, forgetful, we should find
your yoke is hard to bear;
if worldly pressures fray the mind
and love itself cannot unwind
its tangled skein of care:
our inward life repair.

3 We marvel how your saints became
in hindrances more sure:
whose joyful virtues put to shame
the casual way we wear your name,
and by our faults obscure
your power to cleanse and cure.

4 In what you give us, Lord, to do,
together or alone,
in old routines or ventures new,
may we not cease to look to you:
the cross you hung upon,
all you endeavored, done.

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 28:10-17

Meg Roach, Lector

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed* in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!' And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

ANTHEM

O Lord My God

Hymn #625

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 22:1-14

Skip Wodke

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. 'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

SERMON

The Stairway to Heaven

Skip Wodke

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostle's Creed

Hymnal, page 35

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of
God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick
and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN #307

God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

3 Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal, page 35

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 OF THE OFFERING (UNISON)

These gifts are given, O God, as an expression of our thanks for your gifts of forgiveness, mercy and grace. We share out of the bounty which we have received and ask that these offerings and our very lives be used to welcome all, serve Christ and transform lives. AMEN

HYMN #634

To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!

2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. [Refrain]

BENEDICTION

Nancy Dawson

POSTLUDE

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

arr. Smith