

Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Youth Sunday

May 9, 2021

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS [Wyatt]

Scripture's dominant theme is a simple one ...

God is the Divine Potter and humanity is the clay. It's another way to express God's sovereignty over all people; a way to express our need to yield to His divine plan; a way to encourage us to find the purpose for which we have been molded and made; a way to accept the divine purpose of all of God's handiwork.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Our heavenly Father wants to make us watertight containers of His love. We can show some of that love by sharing in the ancient words of the church:

"The peace of Christ be with you "

Respond: "And also with you."

PRELUDE

Down to the River to Pray

Youth Choir

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Grace: Come, step into the light and the glory of God.

Emerson: We will leave the darkness and go into God's light

Grace: Let God shape you like a potter shapes his clay.

Emerson: Like the clay we will let ourselves be shaped by God's will.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION [Macy]

You mold us O God, helping us make something of ourselves, from nothingness. Without you we are disorganized and sinful, but with your love and guidance we can become something beautiful. Help us become like pottery crafted by a skilled artisan, and help us understand that without your steady guiding hand, we are nothing.

Amen

HYMN

I Can Only Imagine (Millard)

Youth Choir

Children's Choir

Sing Him a Song of Praise!!

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 9: 20-24 (Sarah Robert)

²⁰ On the contrary, who are you, O man, who answers arrogantly back to God and dares to defy Him? Will the thing which is formed say to him who formed it, "Why have you made me like this?" ²¹ Does the potter not have the right over the clay, to make from the same lump of clay one object for

honorable use something beautiful or distinctive and another for common use something ordinary or menial? ²² What if God, although willing to show His terrible wrath and to make His power known, has tolerated with great patience the objects of His wrath which are prepared for destruction? ²³ And what if He has done so to make known the riches of His glory to the objects of His mercy, which He has prepared beforehand for glory, ²⁴ including us, whom He also called, not only from among the Jews, but also from among the Gentiles?

Senior Message Virginia Robert

Prayer of Confession [Lilly]

Our Lord the Creator, you who shape and mold us into your holy people, hear our prayers today.

We pray for the people we have been. Looking back, now with the gift of knowing, we see the times we were unkind, ignorant, and irresponsible. Today, help us to view the past with grace. We pray for the strength to right what we did wrong, and we pray for those whom we have hurt without even realizing it. We pray that in your name, they will build from what we have torn apart.

We pray for the people we are. Now, in times of uncertainty, division, and loss, we pray that we may place our trust in you. Lord, help us to be mindful of your presence; even in our darkest moments. We tend to allow our minds to worry even when we know you are with us. We pray that we can find strength in the knowledge of your everlasting love.

We pray for the people we are becoming. In the future, we pray that we continue growing in our faith. Lord, As many of us enter new chapters of our lives, help us to remain grounded in you as we grow. We pray that our experiences continue to mold us into the disciples You have called us to be.

Lord of Mercy, hear our prayer.

Amen

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

Assurance of Pardon [Noah]

The Lord God said:

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you;

I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

Brothers and sisters: In Christ, all God's promises are "Yes."

Hear the good news: Through Christ, our minds and hearts are cleansed, healed, and renewed!

Gloria Patri 580

Anthem

Oceans (Crocker)

Youth Choir

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 64: 8-9 (Faith Jacob)

⁸ Still, God, you are our Father.

We're the clay and you're our potter:

All of us are what you made us.

⁹ Don't be too angry with us, O God.

Don't keep a permanent account of wrongdoing.

Keep in mind, please, we are your people—all of us.

Senior Message Olivia Webb

SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 18: 1-11 (Elizabeth Plucker)

¹⁻² GOD told Jeremiah, "Up on your feet! Go to the potter's house. When you get there, I'll tell you what I have to say."

³⁻⁴ So I went to the potter's house, and sure enough, the potter was there, working away at his wheel. Whenever the pot the potter was working on turned out badly, as sometimes happens when you are working with clay, the potter would simply start over and use the same clay to make another pot.

⁵⁻¹⁰ Then GOD's Message came to me: "Can't I do just as this potter does, people of Israel?" GOD's Decree! "Watch this potter. In the same way that this potter works his clay, I work on you, people of Israel. At any moment I may decide to pull up a people or a country by the roots and get rid of them. But if they repent of their wicked lives, I will think twice and start over with them. At another time I might decide to plant a people or country, but if they don't cooperate and won't listen to me, I will think again and give up on the plans I had for them.

¹¹ "So, tell the people of Judah and citizens of Jerusalem my Message: 'Danger! I'm shaping doom against you, laying plans against you. Turn back from your doomed way of life. Straighten out your lives.'

Senior Message Joseph Plucker

Apostle's Creed [Allie]

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 Spirit, 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 In the Hands of the Potter (*Hall and Smith*)

[Lilly, Allie, Elizabeth]

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE [Dai'Deion, Garret, Kailyn]

THE LORD'S PRAYER [Olivia, *signing*]

*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) [Ella]

*All-powerful God, use these gifts, use our lives, and use this faith community to further your reach and reign in a hungry and hurting world. May your power be at work in and through us so that we may do justice, love mercy and humbly serve others in our homes, classrooms, offices, and our neighborhoods. Use us right here, in this church and beyond these four walls.
Amen*

HYMN

Lift Every Voice and Sing (Johnson)

Youth Choir

Doxology (Old Hundredth, no. 592) [Lilly, Faith, Elizabeth]

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen

Recognition of our Graduating High School Seniors

Joseph Plucker

Virginia Robert

Olivia Webb

BENEDICTION [Joseph, Olivia, Virginia]

As you go forth today remember that God is constantly working to mold and shape you in his glorious image. Remember this, you go nowhere by accident, wherever you go God is sending you there, wherever you are God has put you there. God has a purpose in you being there. Christ lives in you and has something he wants to do through you. Believe this and go in the power and love of Jesus Christ.

POSTLUDE

Our God is An Awesome God (Mullins)

Youth Choir

The Graduating Seniors



Olivia Webb

If I'm not doing something fine arts related then I am probably at church camp. I also love spending time with my friends, family, and pets! I have loved high school, and I will miss it, but I am so excited to go to Syracuse University this fall! As a communicative sciences and disorders major I will specialize in speech pathology. I plan to use my degree to become a speech pathologist for special needs children.



Joseph Plucker

I will be graduating from EC Glass where I have truly earned my high school diploma and from CVCC with an Associates of Art. In the fall I will be attending Christopher Newport University and will be studying pre-law. My loves are history, my cat Indy, and driving my cool car.



Virginia Robert

I will be going to the United States Merchant Marine Academy. I'm still unsure which direction I intend to go with my studies, but you can rest assured I will certainly follow God's lead. I am currently being trained for scuba diving