

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

Prelude

Call to Worship

L: This is the day that the Lord has made.

P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

L: With all our hearts let us praise God's holy name.

P: For God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

L: God redeems our lives from the pit and crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.

P: God satisfies us with good and renews our youth like the eagles.

L: Let us never forget the good things God has done for us.

All: Let us worship God.

****Hymn: We praise you, O God**

425

**1. We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.**

**2. We worship you; God ever faithful, we bless you;
through life's storm and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
and with your help, O Lord, life's battles we win.**

**3. With voices united our praises we offer,
and gladly our songs of true worship we raise.
Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing;
to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise.**

Prayer — The Lord's Prayer (spoken)

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, for ever and ever. Amen

Scripture Readings

Psalm 103:1–13 *Refrain 1*



God is gi - ving and for - gi - ving, e - ver bles - sing, e - ver blest.

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
- 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—
- 3 who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
4 who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
5 **who satisfies you with good as long as you live**
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- 6 The Lord works justice and vindicates all the oppressed.
7 God's made known his ways to Moses,
God's acts to the people of Israel.
- 8 **The Lord is merciful and gracious,**
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- 9 **The Lord will not always accuse,**
nor harbour anger forever.
- 10 The Lord does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

- 11 **For as the heavens are high above the earth,**
so great is his steadfast love shown to those who
revere God;
- 12 **as far as the east is from the west,**
so far does God remove our transgressions from us.
- 13 As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear God.

First Reading: Romans 14:1–12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Second Reading: Matthew 18:21–35

Then Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?”

Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

****Hymn: Sing them over again to me** **498**

**1. Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life;
let them more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life;
words of life and beauty, teach me faith and duty.**

Refrain x 2

**Beautiful words, wonderful words,
wonderful words of life.**

**2. Christ, the blessed one, gives to all, wonderful words of life;
sinner, list to the loving call, wonderful words of life;
all so freely given, wooing us to heaven. Refrain**

**3. Sweetly echo the gospel call, wonderful words of life;
offer pardon and peace to all, wonderful words of life;
Jesus, only Saviour, sanctify forever, Refrain**

Sermon The Economy of Forgiveness

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: King of glory, King of peace** **659**

**1. King of glory, King of peace, I will love thee,
and, that love may never cease, I will move thee.
Thou has granted my request, thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my working breast; thou hast spared me.**

**2. Wherefore with my utmost art, I will sing thee,
and the cream of all my heart I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried, thou didst clear me,
and alone, when they replied, thou didst hear me.**

**3. Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee;
in my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort to enrol thee:
e'en eternity's too short to extol thee.**

Announcements

Offering

Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow 830

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

Prayer of Dedication

****Hymn: Lord, dismiss us with your blessing 468**

- 1. Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
Oh refresh us, oh refresh us,
travelling through life's wilderness.**
- 2. We give thanks and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound;
may the fruits of your salvation
in our hearts and lives abound.
May your presence, may your presence
with us evermore be found,**
- 3. so that when your love shall call us,
Saviour, from the world away,
fear of death shall not appall us,
glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
live in you in endless day.**

Benediction

Postlude

**Our thanks to Donna McIlveen, ODM,
organist Brenda Beckingham,
and soloist Sharon Haidenger.**

~ All hymns are in the public domain. ~

**Mission Moment
New Beginnings and Evangelism Coaches**

The Apostle Paul, in his pursuit of sharing the gospel message, says that in doing so he is "forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead" (Philippians 3:13). Looking ahead is not always an easy thing to do, especially in the rapidly changing environment that we live in today. For congregations, it can be a struggle to know how to continue to reach out to their communities and share the gospel in meaningful ways. The PCC has developed a network of coaches to help congregations and ministries to discover where God is calling them. Through programs like New Beginnings and the Evangelism Network, congregations can be connected with a coach to guide them into an exciting new era of ministry. Contact Canadian Ministries canadianministries@presbyterian.ca to learn more about the New Beginnings program and the Evangelism Network.



Presbyterians Sharing shares the gospel message