

# ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SEPTEMBER 20, 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: Come, let us praise God together!

**P: For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.**

L: Let us remember the compassion God has shown us from generation to generation.

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

L: Let us open our heart, hands and mind to God this day.

**All: Let us worship God.**

**\*\*Hymn: Joyful, joyful we adore you**

**410**

1. Joyful, joyful we adore you,  
God of glory, Lord of love.  
Hearts unfold like flowers before you,  
opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
drive the dark of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.

2. All your works with joy surround you;  
earth and heaven reflect your rays;  
stars and angels sing around you,  
centre of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
flowery meadow, flashing sea,

chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
join to praise you joyfully.

3. You are giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever blessed,  
wellspring of the joy of living,  
ocean depth of happy rest.  
God Creator, Christ our Saviour,  
all are yours who live in love.  
Teach us how to love our neighbour;  
lift us to your joy above.

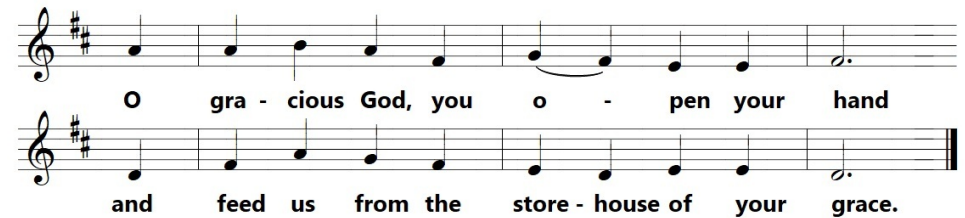
4. Morning stars, awake the chorus;  
mortals, join with every part,  
for what joy is set before us  
as Christ's love joins heart to heart!  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
victor in the midst of strife;  
joyful music leads us sunward  
in the triumph song of life.

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

Psalms 145:1–8 *Refrain 1*



- 1 I will praise you, my God, my Sovereign,  
and bless your name forever and ever.
- 2 **Every day I will bless you,  
and praise your name forever and ever.**
- 3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
**Your greatness is unsearchable.**
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another,  
**and shall declare your mighty acts.**
- 5 On the glorious splendour of your majesty,  
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.
- 6 The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,  
and I will declare your greatness.
- 7 **They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,  
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.**
- 8 The Lord is gracious and merciful,  
**slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

First Reading: Romans 15:4–13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Second Reading: Matthew 20:1–16

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.'

He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

**\*\*Hymn: Take my life and let it be consecrated**

**637**

- 1. Take my life and let it be consecrated,  
Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days:  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**
- 2. Take my hands and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee.**
- 3. Take my voice and let me sing always,  
only for my King;  
take my lips and let them be  
filled with messages from thee.**
- 4. Take my silver and my gold:  
not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect, and use  
every power as thou shalt choose.**

5. **Take my will and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine;  
take my heart: it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.**
6. **Take my love; my Lord,  
I pour at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself and I will be ever,  
only, all for thee.**

Sermon The Dividend of Gratitude

Prayers of the People

**\*\*Hymn: Christ, of all my hopes the ground** 680

1. **Christ, of all my hopes the ground,  
Christ, the spring of all my joy,  
still in thee may I be found;  
still for thee my powers employ.**
2. **Let thy love my heart inflame;  
keep thy fear before my sight;  
be thy praise my highest aim;  
be thy smile my chief delight.**
3. **Fountain of o'erflowing grace,  
freely from thy fullness give;  
as I run this earthly race,  
may I prove it Christ to live.**
4. **Thus, O God, an entrance give  
to thy city, drawing nigh;  
having known it Christ to live,  
let me know it gain to die.**

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: Forth in thy name, O Lord I go** 652

1. **Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go  
my daily labour to pursue;  
thee, only thee, resolved to know,  
in all I think, or speak, or do.**
2. **The task thy wisdom hath assigned  
oh let me cheerfully fulfil;  
in all my works thy presence find,  
and prove thy good and perfect will.**
3. **Thee may I set at my right hand,  
whose eyes my inmost substance see,  
and labour on at thy command,  
and offer all my works to thee.**
4. **Give me to bear thy easy yoke,  
and every moment watch and pray,  
and still to things eternal look,  
and hasten to thy glorious day.**

Benediction / Postlude

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

~ All hymns are in the public domain. ~