

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SEPTEMBER 6, 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: We are gathered together this new day to worship the Lord our God.

P: Your promise to us is that where ever your people meet you are there.

L: It is good that we are gathered together here in the presence of the Lord.

All: Let us worship God.

****Hymn: God of mercy, God of grace**

39

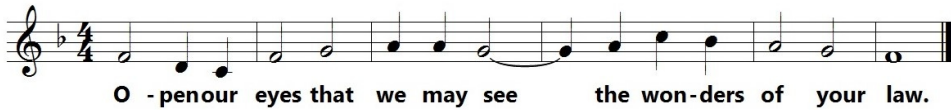
- 1. God of mercy, God of grace,
show the brightness of your face.
Shine upon us, Saviour, shine;
fill your world with light divine,
and your saving health extend
unto earth's remotest end.**
- 2. Let the people praise you, Lord;
be by all that live adored.
Let the nations shout and sing
glory to their gracious King;
at your feet their tribute pay,
and your holy will obey.**
- 3. Let the people praise you, Lord;
earth shall then its fruits afford.
Unto us your blessing give;
we to you devoted live,
all below and all above,
one in joy and light and love.**

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 119:33–40 *Refrain 1*



33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.

34 **Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.**

35 Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in it.

36 **Turn my heart to your decrees,
and not to selfish gain.**

37 **Turn my eyes from looking at vanities;
give me life in your ways.**

38 Confirm to your servant your promise,
which is for those who fear you.

39 Turn away the disgrace that I dread,
for your ordinances are good.

40 **See, I have longed for your precepts;
in your righteousness give me life.**

First Reading: Romans 13:8–14

Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbour as yourself." Love does no harm to a neighbour. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

Second Reading: Matthew 18:15–20

"If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

"Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

****Hymn: Blest be the tie that binds** 481

1. **Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**
2. **Before our Maker's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.**
3. **We share each other's woes, each other's burdens bear,
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.**
4. **When we asunder part, it gives us keenest pain,
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.**
5. **This glorious hope revives our courage on the way:
in perfect friendship we shall live in God's eternal day.**

Sermon The Debt of Love

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: Jesus, where'er thy people meet** 431

1. **Jesus, where'er thy people meet,
there they behold thy mercy seat;
where'er they seek thee thou art found,
and every place is hallowed ground.**
2. **Here may we prove the power of prayer
to strengthen faith and sweeten care,
to teach our faint desires to rise,
and bring all heaven before our eyes.**
3. **Lord, we are few, but thou art near,
nor short thine arm, nor deaf thine ear;
oh rend the heavens, come quickly down
and make a thousand hearts thine own.**

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: He leadeth me** 650

1. **He leadeth me: oh blessed thought!
oh words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

Refrain **He leadeth me! He leadeth me!
By his own hand he leadeth me!
A faithful follower I would be,
for 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

2. **Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's flowers bloom,
by waters still, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me!** *Refrain*

3. **Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
nor ever murmur nor repine,
content, whatever lot I see
since 'tis my God that leadeth me!** *Refrain*

4. **And when my task on earth is done,
when by thy grace the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me.** *Refrain*

Benediction

Postlude

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

~ All hymns are in the public domain. ~

Prayer in a Time of Pandemic

God of all mercy and compassion, life and death are in your hands.

Hear our prayers in this time of illness and infection, of isolation, fear, and uncertainty: for the sick, and those weighed down by pain, distress, loneliness, and anxiety; for all who care for them, conscious of the risks they bear; and for those who have responsibility for public health and social order.

Hear the cry of the afflicted and let them be comforted, so that all who suffer may come to know that they are joined to the sufferings of Christ, who gave his life for the salvation of the world; and by your blessing on them and those who care for them, may they be restored, according to your will, to soundness of body and mind, and offer you joyful thanks in your Church.

Grant us grace to work together, with honest and faithful hearts, each caring for the good of all; that, striving first for your kingdom and its righteousness, we may have added to us all things that we need for our daily sustenance and the common good.

Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.
Amen.

Mission Moment ~ World Literacy Day (September 8)

In Afghanistan, cultural norms dictate that men often play a more central role in public life, while women and girls have more significant roles in the home. Because of this, many girls do not have equal access to education. Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D), with the support of local partners, has been working to provide girls with access to high quality education. Through summer camps, girls are informed about human rights, gender, sex, and leadership and democracy.

Sadaf and Nargi participated in this summer camp, where they were inspired and excited about the great things they could achieve in the future. For the two girls, access to fair and equal education is vital for their goals and dreams; it is also essential to allow their communities to flourish.

PWS&D supports equal education

