

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: Give thanks to the Lord.

All: We will call on God's name and make known God's wonderful works.

One: Seek the Lord continually.

All: We will watch and listen for sign of God's grace.

One: Together let us worship God!

All: Let us rejoice in God's presence and praise God's holy name.

****Hymn: The clay-stained hands of love**

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- 1. The clay-stained hands of love created human form.
Praise love that made us from the earth,
the love with clay-stained hands.**
- 2. The healing hands of love gave speech and sight and strength.
Praise love that came to touch and heal,
the love with healing hands.**
- 3. The wounded hands of love showed life had conquered death.
Praise love that comes in servant form,
the love with wounded hands.**
- 4. The hidden hands of love are building up the church.
Praise love that works with living stone,
the love with hidden hands.**
- 5. We sing our praise, O Love,
for your life-giving hands.
O Maker, Saviour, Spirit, God,
we sing our praise to you.**

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

First Reading: Jonah 3:10–4:11

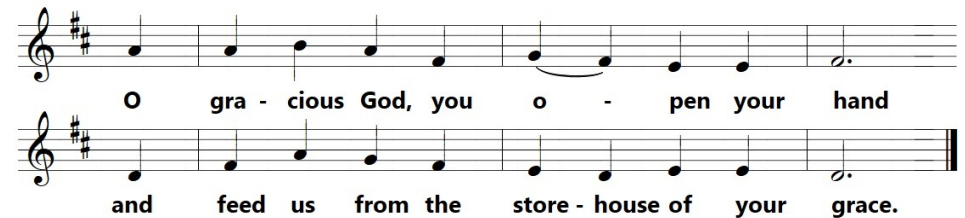
When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the

bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Psalm 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.

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: O Lord, thou art my God and King** 103

- 1. O Lord, thou art my God and king;
thee will I magnify and praise:
I will thee bless and gladly sing
unto thy holy name always.**

- 2. Thee will I bless each day I rise,
and praise thy name, time without end;
much to be praised and great God is,
whose greatness none can comprehend.**
- 3. Thy saints shall praise thy glorious name;
thy mighty acts they shall declare;
thy wondrous works I will proclaim
and meditate on them with prayer.**
- 4. Thy might shall be by all extolled;
thy glorious grace I will record;
with all my strength I will unfold
thy great and mighty acts, O Lord.**
- 5. Thy faithful shall make known the fame
of thy great goodness and shall bless
the splendour of thy glorious name,
praising aloud thy righteousness.**

Sermon Boundless Grace

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: I heard the voice of Jesus say**

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- 1. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast!”
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.**
- 2. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Behold, I freely give**

the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down, and drink and live!"
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived
and now I live in him.

3. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun,
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.

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: Christ, you call us all to service 585**

1. **Christ, you call us all to service,
call us all who follow you;
plant in us a deep commitment
all your work and will to do.
Fire a passion for your justice;
in us kindle love of peace;
help us heal the brokenhearted'
to the captive bring release/**

2. **Teach us how to work together,
brother, sister, side by side,
equal partners in the struggle,
in the cause of truth allied.
To each one some gift is given —
man or woman, young or old;
help us use each skill and talent,
your great purpose to unfold.**
3. **Let us be a servant people,
reconciling, ending strife,
seeking ways more just of sharing
and of ordering human life.
Fill us with a glowing vision
of this world as it should be;
send us forth to change that vision
into blest reality.**

Benediction / Postlude

**Our thanks to Pastor Dan Chook Reid,
organist Brenda Beckingham,
and soloist Sharon Haidenger.**

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Hymn 296

Words: Richard Leach

Music The Good Old Songs, harmony Jack Noble White
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Hymn 585

Words: Joy F. Patterson

Music Dutch melody, arrangement Julius Röntgen
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Hymn 671

Words: Horatius Bonar

Music English trad., arrangement Ralph Vaughan Williams
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