

In-Person Bulletin for Worship

September 5th, 2021

9:00 am

Prelude: "Prelude No. 2"
"Though I May Speak"

Felix Mendelssohn
arranged by Dale Wood

Call to Worship

Jolene Schry

God has given us this day for praise!
God has given His Son to us that we might learn ways of peace and mercy.
Come, let us worship this great God of abundant mercy and love!
Let our songs, our words, and our thoughts reflect God's healing and restoring love.

Music for Meditation

"The Gift of Love" *arranged by John Carter*

Your Spirit gives us differing ways
to serve you well and offer praise.
When all are joined as one, we'll be
your able, strong community.

TEXT: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2001; © 2001 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

MUSIC (O WALY WALY, LM): English folk melody; harm. John Weaver, 1988; harm. © 1990 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by Permission.

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Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, You know us so well. We like to think that we can hide from You, but we are just kidding ourselves. You have offered to us new life, characterized by honesty, compassion, joy, and peace. You have invited us into ministries of peace and justice; but we have far too often turned our back on opportunities for service and witness to Your transformational love. Forgive us for our stubbornness. Help us to turn around and listen to Your words of hope. Remind us again that You require compassion and mercy in all who serve You; that You will guide our steps and our lives. Give us courage to truly be Your witnesses in this world. Amen.

Take a few moments for your own silent confession

Assurance of Hope and Forgiveness

Even if you have transgressed and done what you know to be wrong, remember that God will heal and forgive you; sending you on your way to become a person of peace, hope, love and justice.

We will speak words of peace, we will offer God's love to everyone we meet.

Be at peace. God is with you.

The gift of forgiveness sets us free to share peace with everyone we meet. Amen.

The Presbyterian Hymnal #579 “Gloria Patri”

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

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Glory Be to the Father

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text. Composer: Henry W. Greatorex (1851)

Scripture Readings: James 2:1-10, 14-17

2:1 My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? 2For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, 3and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, ‘Have a seat here, please’, while to the one who is poor you say, ‘Stand there’, or, ‘Sit at my feet’, 4have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? 5Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? 6But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? 7Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

8 You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ 9But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. 10For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? 15If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, 16and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill’, and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? 17So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Mark 7:24-37

24 From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, 25but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. 26Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. 27He said to her, ‘Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.’ 28But she answered him, ‘Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.’ 29Then he said to her, ‘For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.’ 30So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

31 Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. 32They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. 33He took him aside

in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

Message: "Culture and Prejudice"
Prayer

Apostle's Creed

Process outside for Communion and Benediction.

Sending Music: "Azmon" *arranged by Paul Manz*

Glory to God Hymnal #372 "O for a World"

TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987; © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

MUSIC (AZMON, CM): Carl Gotthelf Gläser 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839