Service of Worship  May 22, 2022  9:30am
6th Sunday of Easter/Presbyterian Heritage Sunday

Gathering

PRELUDE  Symphonic Variations On “Amazing Grace”  by Claude T. Smith
GCPC Orchestra – Pam Smith Kelly, director  arr. Joseph Benjamin Earp

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS  Rev. Mitch Trigger

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

ONE:  May God be gracious to us, and bless us,
and cover us with the radiance of grace.
May your way be known everywhere, God:
ALL:  in the hidden places of our hearts; in the comfort of our homes;
ONE:  in every corner of our world; in the farthest reaches of creation.
ALL:  You transform us; you heal our lives;
ONE:  you renew the earth and every creature:
ALL:  Let our praise for you shake the rafters with songs of joy!

*SONG TO PRAISE  “Sing Wherever I Go”  by We The Kingdom
Praise Team – Carrie DeVries, director

All my life, all I know, God’s been good, good to my soul.
Mountain high, valley low, I’m gonna sing wherever I go! (repeat)

God is for me, He’s not against me. I will hold to the plans He has for me.
When I’m broken, He will fix me. I will call on the name of the Lord.

All my life, all I know, God’s been good, good to my soul.
Mountain high, valley low, I’m gonna sing wherever I go!
TIME FOR THE CHILDREN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(responsive)*

ONE: Because you dwell in our hearts, Eternal God, you know how the anger, the pain, the bitterness of our lives try to crowd you out.
The noise of the world deafens us to that Word which can heal us.

ALL: We want our children to be good, kind, and gentle to others,
and then they hear us call others names,
and speak of them with demeaning words.
Our desire for revenge towards those who have hurt us shows that your peace, indeed, is not within us.

ONE: You promise a new heaven and a new earth,
so create new spirits and lives within us, O God.
Shattered by our sin, your heart can still heal our brokenness.

ALL: Your Spirit, living deep within our souls,
can teach us faithful ways.
Your Word, Jesus Christ our Lord,
whispers to us of your mercy, your hope, your love.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE & SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the peace and love of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you and all others!

SONG OF MEDITATION

“Rejoice, Ye Pure In Heart” by Claude T. Smith
GCPC Orchestra – Pam Smith Kelly, director
arr. Joseph Benjamin Earp

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON


A vision of a man from Macedonia came to Paul during the night. He stood urging Paul, “Come over to Macedonia and help us!” Immediately after he saw the vision, we prepared to leave for the province of Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We sailed from Troas straight for Samothrace and came to Neapolis the following day. From there we went to Philippi, a city of Macedonia’s first district and a Roman colony. We stayed in that city several days. On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the riverbank, where we thought there might be a place for prayer. We sat down and began to talk with the women who had gathered. One of those women was Lydia, a Gentile God-worshipper from the city of Thyatira, a dealer in purple cloth. As she listened, the Lord enabled her to embrace Paul’s message. Once she and her household were baptized,
she urged, “Now that you have decided that I am a believer in the Lord, come and stay in my house.” And she persuaded us.

SONG TO REFLECT

“Simple Kingdom”

as recorded by

Praise Team Bryan & Katie Torwalt

Your kingdom is simple; as simple as love.
You welcomed the children; You stopped for the one.
We want to see people the way Jesus does.
Your kingdom is simple, Lord, teach it to us.
His kingdom is humble; as humble as death.
His King is a savior who gave his last breath.
So may we die daily, our pride laid to rest.
His kingdom is humble, and the broken are blessed.

Hallelujah! Hallowed be your name! May we live and breathe your praise

Hallelujah! Let all creation say, “Oh the King of heaven reigns!”

Your kingdom is coming. Your kingdom is here.
Alive in our waiting, at work in our tears.
So come to us quickly. Forever, our prayer.
Your kingdom is coming, Lord Jesus, come near.

Hallelujah! Hallowed be your name! May we live and breathe your praise

Hallelujah! Let all creation say, “Oh the King of heaven reigns!”

Your kingdom is backwards, it flows in reverse.
What You call a treasure, this world calls a curse.
The small become great and the last become first.
Your kingdom is backwards; Lord teach us to serve.
As it is with your kingdom, let it be with your church!

Hallelujah! Hallowed be your name! May we live and breathe your praise

Hallelujah! Let all creation say, “Oh the King of heaven reigns!”

GOSPEL LESSON (video) John 5: 1–9 (NIV Bible)

Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?” “Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.” Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath,
Holy Wisdom, Holy Words
Thanks be to God!

SERMON
“Unprovoked Grace”
Rev. Mitch Trigger

SONG OF GIVING
“Let Everything that Has Breath”
by Matt Redman
Praise Team

Let ev’rything that, ev’rything that, e’vrything that has breath PRAISE THE LORD! (2x)

Praise you in the morning, praise you in the evening, praise you when I’m young and when I’m old.
Praise you when I’m laughing, praise you when I’m grieving, praise you ev’ry season of the soul.
If we could see how much you’re worth, your pow’r, your might, your endless love,
Then surely we would never cease to praise!

Let ev’rything that, ev’rything that, e’vrything that has breath PRAISE THE LORD! (2x)

Praise you in the heavens, joining with the angels, praising you forever and a day.
Praise you on the earth now, joining with creation, calling all the nations to your praise.
If THEY could see how much you’re worth, your pow’r, your might, your endless love,
Then surely THEY would never cease to praise!

Let ev’rything that, ev’rything that, e’vrything that has breath PRAISE THE LORD! (2x)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sending

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE
Symphonic Variations On “Amazing Grace”
by Claude T. Smith
GCPC Orchestra – Pam Smith Kelly, director
arr. Joseph Benjamin Earp

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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GCPC Orchestra

Chris Lindsay and Edwin Fukunaga, violins
Ky Townsend, cello – Gay Lee Ludwig-Bonney, string bass
Bob Dover, flute – Lisa England, bassoon
Amy Jantz, Lauren Bond, Wanda Temm, and Robin Thompson, clarinets
Pat Setzer, bass clarinet – Miles McDonald, alto saxophone
Phil Holmes and Russ Thompson, trumpets
Jim Kelly, Ellin Schoenfeld, Sherry Berard, Diane Woolery-Paris, horns
David England, Ann Arndt, and Julie Baker, trombones
Ken Eberhart and Daniel Cole, percussion
Pam Smith Kelly, conductor