

St. James Presbyterian Church

October 4, 2020
18th Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday

GATHERING

WORDS OF WELCOME

INTROIT

GOD GATHERS US IN

from Psalm 19

One: The heavens tell us about the glory of God, and the skies announce what his hands have made. Each new day tells the story, and each night reveals God's power.

All: *No speech or words are used, and no sound is heard; yet their message goes out to all the world and is heard to the ends of the earth.*

One: The Lord's teachings are perfect. They give strength to his people. The Lord's rules can be trusted. They help even the foolish become wise.

All: *The Lord's laws are right. They make people happy. The Lord's commands are good. They show people the right way to live.*

One: His teachings warn his servants, and good things come to those who obey them.

All: *May our words and our thoughts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our refuge and our redeemer!*

OPENING PRAYER

All: *We gather at your table today with Christians from all over the world to celebrate you, O God of peace. You are with us every time we act as your peacemakers, and your Son taught that peacemakers will be called your children. May our meal this morning remind us of your call to peace-making and your desire that the world be at one with one another and with you. We praise your holy name! Amen.*

HYMN:

This is My Song

(tune: Finlandia)

***This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.***

***My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.***

***This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:
thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations:
myself I give thee; let thy will be done.***

Text: vs. 1-2 Lloyd Stone, v.3 Georgia Harkness (CCLI #6327112)

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: . . . In the confidence that God hears us when we pray, let us confess our sin together:

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

All: O God, so often we get distracted by the soul-numbing cares and concerns of daily living and lose sight of your call to us. Forgive us and help us lay aside our faithless fears. Forgive our inability to trust you in all things. Transform our weary self-centeredness into your greater glory. Give us the vision that lifts our eyes off present struggles and lets us see the big picture. Guard our hearts against unforgiving hardness, anxious worries, and covetous behavior. May we be a reflection of Jesus' glory to a world longing for gentleness, peace, and unconditional understanding. Hear our personal confession in silence.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: . Hear and believe the good news:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever, world without end. Amen.

HYMN OF RESPONSE #355 (vs. 1)

Hear the Good News of Salvation
***Hear the good news of salvation:
Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy!
Come to us from heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love you!
Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me.
Love me still and cleanse within.***

PASSING OF THE PEACE *(from a social distance)*

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. Make us hungry for your Word; may it nourish us today in the ways of eternal life. Through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20

A MOMENT FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

MUSICAL MEDITATION

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 4: 1-9

SERMON

“Enemies of Gratitude: Worry”

Elder Rosamond Presby

RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

CALL TO GIVING TITHES AND OFFERINGS / PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Let us pray. . .

WORDS OF THE INSTITUTION

SHARING THE SACRAMENT

CLOSING PRAYER (ending with The Lord’s Prayer)

HYMN # 514

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

***Let us talents and tongues employ,
Reaching out with a shout of joy:
Bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!***

***Christ is able to make us one.
At the table He sets the tone,
Teaching people to live to bless,
Love in word and in deed express
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!***

***Jesus calls us in, sends us out
Bearing fruit in a world of doubt,***

***Gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) everywhere!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!***

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

When God gathers us to worship, we share our joys and concerns with one another and commend them to God. Please pray for the people and churches whose names appear on this list, and add the joys and concerns that are shared during the service to theirs as you pray for others in the week to come.

The Kauffman Family

The Kelley Family

Mt. Olivet Presbyterian Church (*Hancock, MD*)

Cliff Hanner and Family (*death of Linda on September 16, 2020*)

Tom Dardick, Kathleen Vickroy, Geneva and Collyn (*all dealing with and recovering from the COVID19 virus*)

Carol Rudy and family (*death of Sam*)

Dick Geisel (*recovering at home*)

Wallace Grissinger

Jim & Joyce Masters

Janet & Lin Sanders

Seth Carter

Chance Stephens (*entering Naval Training*)

Kay B (*cancer*)

Pat Dudzinski (*Jane Michaliszyn's mom*)

Marilyn Cooker (*Liz Kimmel's sister –pancreatic cancer*)

Betty Brooks (*breast cancer*)

PNC Committee – *Tom Dardick, Steve Grubb, Deb Hanner, Karen Howenstine, Ginger Johns, Karen McLaughlin and Joyce Shirley*

All those who have passed away due to COVID-19 without their loved ones nearby and their families who are unable to be with them or each other during this difficult time

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU – Joan Hamm and family wanted to thank the congregation for the kind remembrance of George Hamm to a place that was so kind to all of them. A donation was made to Stonebridge Health and Rehab Center in George's memory.

OFFERING - You may mail or drop off your offering to St. James Presbyterian Church at 1425 Orrs Bridge Rd. Mechanicsburg, PA 17050. You may also give using the Give Plus Mobile app or scan the QR code with your smartphone to begin the online giving process. A link to online giving can also be found on our church website at <https://stjames-presby.org/>. Please note that 2% of your online/app donation will go to processing fees and not to the church. Therefore, the church would prefer if you are able to have your bank send a check or mail your offering directly to the church.

NEW STUDY IN WEDNESDAY SMALL GROUP - The Wednesday Night Small Group starts this Wednesday at 7 p.m. We will discuss I'm Still Here by Austin Channing Brown. This memoir takes a look at a Black woman's experience as a Christian and examines her interactions with American schools, professional spaces, and places of worship, providing insights on how to deal with microaggressions and blatant racism. If you are interested in joining the small group, we meet on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Please send Steve Grubb an e-mail at Stevengrubb@comcast.net to be added to the list for Zoom invitations. Please purchase a copy of the book at a local bookseller or on-line retailer like Amazon, Barnes and Noble or Christianbook.com. Please consider joining our group! The discussion is deep and the impact is real. Here are some comments from group members who participated in the Be the Bridge book study:

Bridges connect many things... including people. I did not know I needed to work on my bridge building until I read the book Be the Bridge by Latasha Morrison. It is an inspirational and informative look at racial injustice in our nation - past and present. This book has transformed my daily interaction with people of color in amazingly positive ways. But more than that, it challenges me, you and everyone to be the bridge builders for healing of the world and the glory of God.

-Sue Foster

Here is the Syllabus for the I'm Still Here study:

Week 1 (9/16): Introduction, Chapters 1, 2

Week 2: Chapters 3,4, 5

Week 3: Chapters 6, 7

Week 4: Chapters 8, 9

Week 5: Chapters 10, 11, 12

Week 6: Chapters 13, 14 and Afterword

SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE - St. James is currently improving our social media usage in order to let everyone know all of the amazing things that happen at and through St. James! If you haven't yet, please follow us on Facebook and our newly created Instagram! **(St.James_Presby)**

We will be posting about everything that is happening around the church and this should allow you (as a member of St. James) to stay fairly well informed with your faith family! Other communication will still be sent out (emails, bulletins, announcements, etc.) but this will allow you to stay connected in another way without checking your email! Please follow us if you're able!

UPPER ROOM BOOKS – If anyone would like an Upper Room devotional book, please email Jen at stjamesoffice@verizon.net. If I get a request I will mail the book to you. The September / October books are available now.

