Let Us Worship God!



August 27, 2023-10:30 AM Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Be involved in doing good, for at the proper time good things will result if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9

A Hybrid Worship Experience In-Person and Online Today's worship team—Music Director: Jayne McDonough: Worship Leader: Beverly Mate; Message: Norris Clark; Production: Max Moran

WELCOME!

WORSHIP YOUR WAY!

So glad you're here today. Enjoy worship with your neighbors and be spiritually energized. Join us in-person in our beautiful, historic Red Brick

Church or online: www.coldspringworship.com.

WORSHIP PREVIEW

We welcome Norris Clark to the pulpit with the message "Profiles in Courage: Part 1 - Facing Death for Love", while Pastor Kevin recuperates.

MUSIC PREVIEW

After the First reading, we will sing one verse of a few of your favorite hymns from the pew hymnals. Choose your favorite and be ready!

Following the message we will sing "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight. What does it mean to walk by faith, not sight? It's common to think that, as inspiring as the phrase sounds, walking by faith would make a person unintelligent, sheltered, and aloof. The truth is, walking by faith means being perceptive, resilient, and engaged.

Our closing hymn is "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee! This hymn is from a poem by Henry Van Dyke. He wrote it in 1907 while ministering at Williams College as a guest speaker. It was intended to be a musical setting to the famous "Ode to Joy" melody of the final movement of Ludwig van Beethoven's final symphony. Symphony no. 9. Van Dyke told his host at Williams College, college president Harry Augustus Garfield that he was inspired by the local Berkshire Mountains in writing this song. He said that this hymn was an expression of Christian feeling and desires that the thought of the age and truth of science will never destroy the kingdom of heaven.

PRELUDE: JAYNE McDonough

WELCOME: NORRIS CLARK

CALL TO WORSHIP - RESPONSIVE - BEVERLY MATE

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

who made the heavens and the earth.

If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, then the flood would have swept us away. The God who saved Israel is still at work in the world, hearing the cries of the afflicting and setting God's people free. Thanks be to God!

GOD WELCOMES ALL (SING IN UNISON):

God welcomes all, strangers and friends; God's love is strong and it never ends.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: UNISON

Mysterious God, we trust that you are at work among us, even when you are hidden from our sight. By the power of your Spirit, open our eyes to see you, our ears to hear you, and our arms to embrace your truth, as it comes to us in your Word. Amen.

FIRST READING: I KINGS 19: 1-5, 9-10

Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, "May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them."

Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, While he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down

under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep.

And the word of the Lord came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He replied, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

HYMN SING - CONGREGATION REQUESTS

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 26: 35-56

But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the other disciples said the same.

Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."

Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as

you will."

Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Couldn't you men keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter. "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done." When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.

Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him." Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. Jesus replied, "Do what you came for, friend." Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him. With that, one of Jesus' companions

reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear. "Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?"

In that hour Jesus said to the crowd, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Message: "Profiles in Courage: Part 1 - Facing Death for Love" - Norris Clark

PRAYER AND SILENT REFLECTION

MUSIC: WE WALK BY FAITH AND NOT BY SIGHT #399, BLUE HYMNAL

- 1. We walk by faith and not by sight; No gracious words we hear from Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke; But we believe Him near.
- 2. We may not touch His hands and side, Nor follow where He trod;

But in His promise we rejoice, And cry "My Lord and God!"

- 3. Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; And may our faith abound To call on You when You are near And seek where You are found;
- 4. That, when our life of faith is done, In realms of clearer light We may behold You as You are, With full and endless sight.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

The Apostle Paul writes, "Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think of yourself with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned." In sober judgment and humility, let us confess our sin before God and one another:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Gracious God, you are always present and active amid your people. We confess that sometimes we fail to recognize and respond to your saving work in the world. We defer to power and privilege, expect the tried and true, and succumb to doubt and despair when your ways are not clear. Behold, you are doing a new thing; help us to perceive it. Forgive us when we do not respond to your call.

Liberate us from our fears and self-imposed limitations. Guide us into the fullness of life and love that you are at work preparing. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

HEAR THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends, hear the good news: Our God makes a way where there is no way, infusing our world with grace and hope when such goodness feels long gone. We are a people redeemed and restored.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

THE GLORIA

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.

Amen.

GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

By the mercy of God, we are called to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, for this is our act of worship. Our gifts differ, but all can be used to further God's kingdom. Let us receive the morning offering.

The Doxology (10:58)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above

the heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE - NORRIS CLARK

Happy birthday to Mary Imperato (8/29), Nichole DiLossi (9/1), Lynda McCartney (9/3)

Community News: Hospitality table refreshments - sign up sheets in the narthex for future Sundays.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Pastor Kevin is in our prayers for healing. Thank you for your prayers, cards and expressions of love and support!

Prayers for: Bob Fite was visited by Dale Myers and "looks good, his mind is sharp" per Dale; Denise Snyder-terminal cancer; Connie & Jim Blocker's Daughter; Rev. Reader & Rev. Madden.

Those on hospice care: John Stalford, Bob Fite, Gertrude Hess.

In the Community- prayers for the victims of the Maui-Lahaina, Hawaii wildfires.

Those undergoing cancer treatment: Denise, Brian, Gerri Mills, Robin B, Mike, Kim, Steve, Rickey, Lorraine, Kate, Candy, Donna.

Prayer

(...we pray the prayer Christ taught us to pray by saying together, **Our Father...**)

LORD'S PRAYER

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, forever. Amen.

Fresh Expression of Community- Beverly Mate

Once we were strangers,

Now we are neighbors.

Once we were strangers,

Now we are friends.

MUSIC: JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE #464 BLUE HYMNAL

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;7
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

2. All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays, Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise,

Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flowery meadow, flashing sea, Chanting bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in Thee.

3. Mortals join the happy chorus Which the morning stars began; Love divine is reigning o'er us, Joining all in heaven's plan. Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife, Joyful music lifts us sunward In the triumph song of life.

BENEDICTION - NORRIS CLARK POSTLUDE - JAYNE McDonough

So glad you've joined us. Please share your worship experience with others on our YouTube channel, Facebook, and Instagram. View worship at any time on our YouTube page. Invite others to join you next week.

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- 1. God Welcomes All: CCLI Song #5495557
- 2. We Walk by Faith and Not By Sight: Henry Alford/Samuel McFarland; CCLI Song #2591911
- 3. Gloria: Public Domain
- 4. Doxology: CCLI #4255578
- 5. Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee: Henry Van Dyke/Edward Hodges-Ludwig van Beethoven; CCLI Song #25321