

September 12, 2021

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Over the next nine months of 2021-22, we will, again, be using the Narrative Lectionary readings in worship. After the New Year, we will focus on John's Gospel; but this fall, prior to the start of Advent, we will look at texts from the Old Testament with the theme: "Out of Chaos, Hope." Some of you may recognize this as the mission statement of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), a service arm of our denomination that responds to crises such as fires and floods. For, as much as we might wish that God turn chaos into order, hope is really what we need the most; and we are called to join with God who is already at work in the world providing for that need.

PRELUDES

*The Old Rugged Cross
Let There Be Peace on Earth*

*John Innes
Lani Smith*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Why do we give thanks and praise today?

P: Because we are each created in God's image.

L: Why are we called to reach out and love God's children?

P: Because we are all created in God's image.

L: Why are we called to care for God's creation?

P: Because we are each and all created in God's image.

L: As those created in the image of God and beloved by God,

All: Let us worship God!

WELCOMING SONG #13 *The Mighty God with Power Speaks*

Kingsfold

(verse 1)

The Mighty God with power speaks, and all the world obeys; from dawn until the setting sun, God's wonder earth displays. The perfect beauty all around from Zion's height shines forth; and stars across the firmament so brightly beam their worth.

(verse 2)

God comes not with a silent form, but riding on the winds; before God's face, the raging storm its blast of thunder sends. All hail the Judge, in bold array, whose promise is to bless; who sees our sins, yet also feels our thirst for righteousness.

(verse 3)

The heavens declare your justice, Lord, as endless as the sky; against the taunts of disbelief, our God will testify. Receive my heartfelt gift of thanks, as honor to your might; refresh my faith with each new day; protect me through the night.

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CALL TO CONFESSION (adapted from I John 3)

L: Christ came to take away our sin and reclaim us as beloved children of God.
In that confidence, let us humbly confess our sin and the sin of this world:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We follow too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We offend against your holy laws. We leave undone those things we ought to do, and do those things we ought not to do. O Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your name.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Hear the good news. Hope does not disappoint us, for God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Believe this good news and give thanks. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE #765 *May the God of Hope Go with Us* Argentina
May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race. Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all; working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

Text by Alvin Schutmaat
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TIME WITH CHILDREN

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord our God, your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, that we may obey your will and live always for your glory. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a (Common English Bible)

(See last page of Announcements.)

SPECIAL MUSIC

What a Wonderful World Weiss & Thiele
Soloists: Don & Nancy Sullivan, sax & piano

SERMON SERIES: *Out of Chaos, Hope – “God Provides Light”* Rev. John Wahl

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

Robert Heeble

RESPONSE #647

Give Thanks

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" Give thanks

By Henry Smith
©1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music
CCL #11043756

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING SONG #673

Jesus, Light of Joy
(verse 1)

Lauda Anima

Jesus, light of joy, surround us; let your splendid glory shine: source of every earthly blessing, heaven's everlasting sign. Alleluia, alleluia, we adore you, light divine.

(verse 2)

Now the shadows fall around us; now the evening has begun: still your gracious light is with us, brighter than the morning sun. Alleluia, alleluia, God of glory, Three in One.

(verse 3)

With the saints we lift our voices, God of power, God of might. All creation shines with glory, singing praises day and night: alleluia, alleluia, holy, holy, holy light.

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power

Edward Broughton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Health and Safety Protocols

With the return to in-person worship services, we ask you to follow these guidelines:

- Windows will be open and fans turned on, so please dress to be comfortable.
- In order for proper distancing, please do not sit in the pews that have been blocked or directly next to people not in your family.
 - Please wear face coverings when inside the church building.
 - If you are not feeling well today, please stay home.

- Hymnals and pew bibles have been put away, the words are printed in the bulletin.
- At this time, we will not be passing the peace, the offering plate, or holding hands for the benediction at the close of the service.
- Since we are livestreaming the service, we ask that you remain seated in the pews during the prelude and postlude.
- After the worship service has concluded, we ask that you move outside for any extended conversations.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Any changes to these protocols will be shared in advance of Sunday gatherings.

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:
Friday, September 17 (10 a.m. – 4 p.m.)
Saturday, September 18 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Adult Choir Rehearsals



The first rehearsal for Valley's Adult Choir will be on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 7 p.m. in the Choir Loft.

We will sing during the worship service on September 26th!! New members are always welcome; so think about adding your voice to our group. The fellowship, the sharing of our time and our talents make the choir more than just a singing ensemble; IT IS A FAMILY.



Hope to see you on the 23rd of September at 7 p.m.!

Chagrin Valley Council of Churches – Crop Walk

Sunday, October 10, 2021 - Frohring Meadows

16780 Savage Road

Sign in begins at 1:45 p.m.; walk begins at 2:00 p.m. at the Katydid Shelter.



Proceeds benefit the Geauga Hunger Task Force and Church World Service.

¹³ There was evening and there was morning: the third day.

¹⁴ God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night. They will mark events, sacred seasons, days, and years. ¹⁵ They will be lights in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth.” And that’s what happened. ¹⁶ God made the stars and two great lights: the larger light to rule over the day and the smaller light to rule over the night. ¹⁷ God put them in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw how good it was.

¹⁹ There was evening and there was morning: the fourth day.

²⁰ God said, “Let the waters swarm with living things, and let birds fly above the earth up in the dome of the sky.” ²¹ God created the great sea animals and all the tiny living things that swarm in the waters, each according to its kind, and all the winged birds, each according to its kind. God saw how good it was. ²² Then God blessed them: “Be fertile and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.”

²³ There was evening and there was morning: the fifth day.

²⁴ God said, “Let the earth produce every kind of living thing: livestock, crawling things, and wildlife.” And that’s what happened. ²⁵ God made every kind of wildlife, every kind of livestock, and every kind of creature that crawls on the ground. God saw how good it was. ²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth.” ²⁷ God created humanity in God’s own image, in the divine image God created them, male and female God created them. ²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, “Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and master it. Take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, and everything crawling on the ground.” ²⁹ Then God said, “I now give to you all the plants on the earth that yield seeds and all the trees whose fruit produces its seeds within it. These will be your food. ³⁰ To all wildlife, to all the birds in the sky, and to everything crawling on the ground—to everything that breathes—I give all the green grasses for food.” And that’s what happened. ³¹ God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good.

There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day.

² The heavens and the earth and all who live in them were completed. ² On the sixth day God completed all the work that he had done, and on the seventh day God rested from all the work that he had done. ³ God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all the work of creation. ⁴ This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created.