

5th Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022

Today's message – "Practicing the Sabbath – A Changed Imagination" – is based on my study and research during the course of a Leadership in a Changing World Doctor of Ministry program through University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. Printed copies of the Thesis summary are available in the narthex or via the church website.

PRELUDES

*A Quiet Interlude
Improvisation on Hankey*

*George Lachenauer
Elizabeth Krouse*

WELCOME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #414

Be Still and Know That I Am God

Psalm 46

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God.

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CALL TO WORSHIP (from Genesis 2:2-3)

L: And on the seventh day, God finished the work he had done,

P: And God rested on the seventh day from all the work he had done.

L: So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it,

P: Because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

All: Let us worship God.

***GATHERING SONG #37** *Let All Things Now Living*
(verse 1)

Ash Grove

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise; who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, by guiding us on to the end of our days. God's banners are o'er us; pure light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night: till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished, as forward we travel from light into light.

(verse 2)

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses, the sun in its orbit obediently shine; the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine. We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration, a song let us raise, till all things now living unite in thanksgiving: to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

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*Please stand as you are able.

CALL TO CONFESSION

L: The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, God, that we have squandered the resources and beauty of your creation; that we have taken your gifts for granted. You have given us the seeds of faith and the fruit of the spirit, but we have displayed them rarely, bestowed them grudgingly, and ignored them blithely. Thank you, God, that you give us a fresh start, a second chance. Compel us with the challenge to change. Overwhelm us with the power of your resurrected love. And lead us towards a new life of justice and peace.

(time of silence)

DECLARATION OF GOD'S PARDON

L: Hear the good news of God's promise: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. In his name, we are all forgiven.

P: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #288**

Spirit of the Living God *Living God*
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

By Daniel Iverson
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CCL #11043756

WORD

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word. Shine upon us that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life in word and in deed. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON – Deuteronomy 5:1-3, 12-15

Moses convened all Israel and said to them: "Hear, O Israel, the statutes and ordinances that I am addressing to you today; you shall learn them and observe them diligently. ² The LORD our God made a covenant with us at Horeb. ³ Not with our ancestors did the LORD make this covenant but with us, who are all of us here alive today."

*Please stand as you are able.

¹² “Observe the Sabbath day and keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. ¹³ Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁴ But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. ¹⁵ Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.”

CHORAL ANTHEM

*Sit Down Sister
Women’s Choir*

Bennett

Soloists: Barb Anderson, Tanya Fouts, Marilyn Rodenhausen, Lois Urban

THE SECOND LESSON – Luke 6:1-10 (Common English Bible)

One Sabbath, as Jesus was going through the wheat fields, his disciples were picking the heads of wheat, rubbing them in their hands, and eating them.

² Some Pharisees said, “Why are you breaking the Sabbath law?”

³ Jesus replied, “Haven’t you read what David and his companions did when they were hungry? ⁴ He broke the Law by going into God’s house and eating the bread of the presence, which only the priests can eat. He also gave some of the bread to his companions.” ⁵ Then he said to them, “The Human One is Lord of the Sabbath.”

⁶ On another Sabbath, Jesus entered a synagogue to teach. A man was there whose right hand was withered. ⁷ The legal experts and the Pharisees were watching him closely to see if he would heal on the Sabbath. They were looking for a reason to bring charges against him. ⁸ Jesus knew their thoughts, so he said to the man with the withered hand, “Get up and stand in front of everyone.” He got up and stood there. ⁹ Jesus said to the legal experts and Pharisees, “Here’s a question for you: Is it legal on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy it?” ¹⁰ Looking around at them all, he said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” So he did and his hand was made healthy.

THE MESSAGE

“Practicing the Sabbath: A Changed Imagination”

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

WITNESS

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

I’ll Fly Away

Arrg. by Krauss

Soloists: Ron Cechner, Chip Steele, Don Sullivan

***DOXOLOGY #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 #716**

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending *Beach Spring*
(verse 1)

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

(verse 2)

Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one. Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone. Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

(verse 3)

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred: ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word. Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call, healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

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***CHORAL BENEDICTION** *Celtic Alleluia* *Fintain, O'Carroll, & Walker*

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE *We Believe in One True God* *Daniel Burton*

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Health and Safety Protocols

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

- Windows may be open or fans turned on to provide appropriate air circulation.
- When inside the church building, face coverings are optional based on personal comfort level.
 - Socially distance as able in the pews and sanctuary.

- If you are not feeling well today, please stay home.
- 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.
- 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.

Upcoming Events (See May newsletter for more details.)

Sunday, May 15
VPC Clean-up Day

Sunday, May 22
Confirmation

Thursday, May 26
HOVCP Ice Cream Truck

HOVCP Fundraiser

Welcome to Moe's! Moe's taco dinner on Thursday, May 19th - order one for you – order one for your neighbor – maybe even one for a friend or family member! Here is the link to order:

<https://form.jotform.com/210144175392147>

- make sure to hit the “submit” button at the end!

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, May 20
(10 a.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, May 21
(10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Valley Choir – “God Bless the USA”



The Valley Choir would like to invite you to sing with us on Sunday, May 29th, during the Worship Service. We will be doing Lee Greenwood's "God Bless the USA" in celebration of Memorial Day and practicing at 9:30 a.m. that morning. Music will be provided, and it is a chance for all of us to share together musically what being an American is all about!!!! Please consider joining us Sunday, May 29th. (Contact Nancy Sullivan, if you have any questions.)

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Spring Cleaning Kit



Helyne Walker is putting together a spring cleaning kit for each of the families in the Chagrin Falls Park Community, and she will be distributing them on Friday, May 20th. Please consider donating the following items to the Community Center through May 19th:

Small bottles of bleach, small bottles of spic and span, paper towels.

CFPCC is, also, in need of snacks for the children's program. They could use the following or any other snack-size item you wish to donate:

Juice boxes; small bags of chips, pretzels; popsicles, small water bottles.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations.

Fellowship News

1 Corinthians 10:31

***"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do,
do it all for the glory of God."***

What do Julia Childs from the film *Julia & Julia*; Babette from the film *Babette's Feast*; and Remy, the Rat from *Ratatouille* have in common with Gerry Chittock, Janet Graham and Bev Keough? These characters, like these three wonderful women, have shown their love through making, procuring, and serving our congregation during Fellowship Time. The Deacons would like to thank them for taking care of us! These ladies will still be involved, but are offering the congregation the opportunity to adopt a Sunday Fellowship Time!

We have openings from May 1 to June 5. You can sign up as a host or to bring refreshments in honor of a birthday, anniversary, or just because! Sign up with a friend! We feel so blessed to be able to meet face-to-face with those we have missed so much.

Your Valley Deacons

To learn more about the role of a host and to sign up, see the May newsletter or the Church website for a link, or you can contact the office or a Deacon for information.

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.valleypresbychurch.org

VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345

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