

October 13, 2024
Coming Together: Kindness

WELCOME

PRELUDES (A Time for Quiet Meditation)

Sunset to Sunrise Gilbert M. Martin
Meditation on "Wer nur den lieben Gott" Ben Logan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER CONCERNS AND REQUESTS

COMING TOGETHER

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ Has Broken Down the Walls
(refrain)

***Christ has broken down the wall. Christ has broken down the wall.
Let us join our hearts as one. Christ has broken down the wall.***

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of mercy, we ask you to come near, for we are a divided world, and we are not sure of our footing in this moment. Steady us and invite us to "do unto others" in ways that build up your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. We pray this in the mercy of God who heals, and in the name of Jesus that holds, and in the power of the Spirit that transforms. Amen.

***OPENING SONG #346** *For the Healing of the Nations* St. Thomas (Wade)
(verse 1)

***For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord; for a just
and equal sharing of the things that earth affords; to a life of love in
action help us rise and pledge our word.***

(verse 2)

***Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release, that,
redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace. Show us
how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.***

(verse 3)

***All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned: pride of
status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan. In our
common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.***

(verse 4)

***You, Creator God, have written your great name on human kind; for our
growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our
response and service earth its destiny may find. Earth its destiny may
find.***

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*Please stand as you are able.

CALL TO CONFESSION (based on Matthew 11:28)

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Trusting in God's gracious mercy through Jesus Christ, let us confess the sin that separates us from God and our neighbors:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and merciful God, we often wonder what we must do to be right with you. But, the gospel tells us what you have already done for us in Jesus Christ to make us right with you. We establish rules and try to follow them to win your love. But, you call us to trust in your grace and promises in Jesus Christ. We strive for security by piling up the things of this life. But, Jesus says, "Come, follow me." Lord, forgive our self-centeredness that seeks our well-being while we ignore the needs of others. Forgive our relying on ourselves rather than accepting Jesus' call to discipleship. Help us to seek your kingdom and righteousness first in our lives.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON (based on I Timothy 1:15)

One: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Children of God, hear and believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God.

PEACE ACROSS THE DIVIDE (projected)

***SONG OF RESPONSE #205**

Live in Charity (sing twice)

Ubi Caritas (Taizé)

Live in charity and steadfast love. Live in charity; God will dwell with you.

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***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And, also, with you.

WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (based on Psalm 119:105)

Almighty God, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." As we hear your Word read and proclaimed today, may our hearts be illumined by your Holy Spirit. May our lives and actions reflect the light of your Word that others may, also, follow your path. Amen.

RESPONSIVE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING (Common English Bible)

Isaiah 11:6-9

One: The wolf will live with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat;

All: The calf and the young lion will feed together, and a little child will lead them.

One: The cow and the bear will graze. Their young shall lie down together; and the lion will eat straw like an ox.

*Please stand as you are able.

All: A nursing child will play over a snake's hole; toddlers will reach right over the serpent's den.

One: They won't harm or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain.

All: The earth will surely be filled with the knowledge of the Lord, just as the water covers the sea.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Dona Nobis Pacem

Lightfoot

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 6:31-36

³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

SERMON

"Kindness"

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

WITNESS

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available for making monetary donations.

OFFERTORY

Hanover – Ye Servants of God

Allan Mahnke

PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

***SENDING SONG #203** *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

Chereponi

(refrain)

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love; show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

(verse 1)

Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet, Master who acts as a slave to them.

(refrain)

(verse 2)

Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race; neighbors are near us and far away.

(refrain)

(verse 3)

These are the ones we should serve; these are the ones we should love; all these are neighbors to us and you.

(refrain)

*Please stand as you are able.

(verse 4)

Loving puts us on our knees; willing to wash others' feet; this is the way we should live like you.

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***BENEDICTION**

Father I Adore You

Coelho

POSTLUDE

The Upward Way

Lani Smith

Adapted liturgy used with permission by Marcia McFee,
www.worshipdesignstudio.com/kindness.

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Flowers

The flowers this morning are dedicated by Ruth Gurd in celebration of family birthdays.

Festival Choir



Can't you feel it??? There is a **chill** in the air and nights are **cooler**. Days are shorter, and soon  will be ringing and  will be singing "NOEL!" SO.....you are invited to join the **Festival Choir** for their Christmas Concert "**CHRISTMAS, A SIMPLE GIFT**" on **December 15th, 2024**.

Rehearsals started on October 3rd and will be every Thursday at 8 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

THANK YOU AND BRAVOS!!!!



Thank you to all of the musicians who stepped up this summer to provide special music throughout the summer months. It is redundant to say that we have so much talent here, but it is the truth. Valley is blessed with vocalists, soloists, instrumentalists (saxophone), praise band, organist, vocal duets, and octet. Please know that you are appreciated, and your gift to Valley musically did not go unnoticed!!!!

Heart of Valley Christian Preschool – Stoller Pastries Fundraiser

Heart of Valley will be selling Stoller pastries, again, this fall.

Stoller is an Ohio company that makes delicious pastry ~ pumpkin



rolls, cinnamon buns, and braided pastries to name a few. This will be our 6th year doing this fundraiser and the reviews are excellent.



Frozen orders will be delivered the beginning of November – just in time for the holidays!



There will be order forms to look at after church on Sunday, October 13th, or order online at (see weekly email for an electronic link):

<https://store.myfundraisingplace.com/SelectPProducts/181d4270-e08f-476f-86d5-32146fbc49/3462302>

Knitting For Others



Inviting all folks from 12-100 years of age, who like to knit or who would like to learn, to be a part of Valley's Knitting Group.

The group will meet (come when your schedule allows):

Sunday, October 13 — 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 27 — 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

This group has been busy knitting prayer blankets and shawls for members of our congregation. It takes a lot of yarn to knit or crochet these items. Many of us have made items in the past but not used quite all of the yarn. Knitting for Others can use the leftover yarn to make items to share with others. If you have any worsted size-4 or bulky size-5 yarn that you will not be using and could share with Knitting for Others, we certainly would appreciate your donation. Yarn can be left in the box marked “yarn” in the Library. Thank you so much for your help.

For questions, please call one of our Co-Chairs, Beverly or Bev:

Beverly Wahl
502-553-7255

Bev Keough
330-888-5385

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, October 18, 2024 (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, October 19, 2024 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Pass-it-on is accepting donations. Please contact Brenda Wahl at 440-829-7841 or passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com.

Serving at North Church

October is our North Presbyterian Church partnership month. This year, we are sharing that privilege and responsibility with Christ Presbyterian Church, Chesterland, for the first three Sundays of October (members of Forest Hill Church will be serving on October 27). This is a great opportunity to minister to “the least” by serving meals and sharing in worship. Here is the schedule for ways you could help out:

Sunday, October 13

Members from Christ Church will be making and serving the meal.

Friday, October 18

10:30 a.m. – noon

Meal preparation in the church kitchen.

Sunday, October 20

10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

4-6 members from Valley (any age) are needed to drive prepared food down, participate in worship, serve the meal, and share fellowship with the folks from North.

Worship Exchange with Bainbridge Community Church

(See the October Valley Voice for the full article.)

Our neighbors to the south, Bainbridge Community United Church of Christ (BUCC), have entered into a discernment process concerning the future of their worship, mission, and property. Their leaders have approached us here at Valley to explore combining the two congregations into united ministry on our current building and grounds.

As part of the discernment process for potentially coming together as one, reunited Body of Christ, we have scheduled, in October, two Sundays for a worship exchange. On each day, one congregation will join the other as invited guests for prayer, praise, and fellowship.

Sunday, October 20

Valley hosts members of BUCC at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, October 27

BUCC hosts members of Valley at 10:30 a.m.

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center in October:



Soups, broths, coffee, tea, rice, SpaghettiOs, macaroni & cheese, chicken, ground beef, vegetables, eggs, butter, milk, snacks, hygiene products, or anything you would like to donate.

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

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.valleypresbychurch.org

VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345

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Heidi Cregar, Director
Phone: (440) 708-2572
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Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan
Liturgist: Jai Mayers

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeter: Marilyn Bullanda