



Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church
Online Worship Service
Sunday, June 28, 2020 at 11am
Unraveled Series: Week 4

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

Create in Me a Clean Heart

arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Jody Andrade

Call to Worship

The Rev. Jennie Sankey

One: Sometimes life takes us where we don't expect.

All: Sometimes, God takes us where we don't expect.

One: In worship, we gather to get in touch with God's bigger narrative.

All: In worship, we gather to expand our hearts.

One: So let us worship the God of unending surprises.

All: Let us worship the God of love.

Christ Be Beside Me

702

1 Christ be be - side me; Christ be be - fore me; Christ be be -
 2 Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a -
 3 Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me; Christ be on

hind me, King of my heart. Christ be with - in me; Christ be be -
 round me, shield in the strife. Christ in my sleep - ing, Christ in my
 all tongues tell - ing of me. Christ be the vi - sion in eyes that

low me; Christ be a - bove me, nev - er to part.
 sit - ting, Christ in my ris - ing, Light of my life.
 see me; in ears that hear me Christ ev - er be.

This text adapts part of a traditional Irish prayer associated with St. Patrick (see also no. 6). Such a prayer for protection is known as a *lorica*, from a Latin word for "breastplate" or "armor." It is set to a Gaelic melody that gained wide popularity in the 1970s.

TEXT: James Quinn, SJ, 1969
 MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985
 Music Arr. © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources

BUNESSAN
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Call to Confession
 Day

The Rev. Katie

Prayer of Confession

Creator God, being faithful has never been easy. You asked Noah to build a ship. You asked the Israelites to plant gardens and build homes while in exile. You asked the prophets to speak challenging truths. You asked the disciples to drop their nets and follow you. And you ask us to love bigger than society wants to. Being faithful has never been easy, and as a result, we often miss the mark. Forgive us for holding tightly to human-made plans. Forgive us for the times we say no to you so that we can say yes to ourselves. Unravel the grip we have on our agenda so that we can make room for you. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

Response

Come and Find the Quiet Center, Stanza 1

***Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
 Find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
 Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
 All the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.***

Assurance of Grace

Katie

*Passing of the Peace

Katie

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

The Word Read and Proclaimed

Children's Sermon

Katie

Anthem

May Your Roots Go Deep

Lantz
Jen Falk, flute

May your roots go deep into the soil, the soil of God's marvelous love. And may you be able to feel and understand as all God's children should: how long, how wide, how deep and how high his love truly is, Christ's love truly is. May your roots go deep into the soil, the soil of God's marvelous love. Love so great that you will never fully know or understand: how long, how wide, how deep and how high his love truly is, Christ's love truly is. And so at last you will be filled up with God himself. May your roots go deep into the soil, the soil of God's marvelous love.

Prayer for Illumination

Brad Kirch

Scripture Reading

Matthew 22: 34-40

Brad

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, 35 and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 36 "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" 37 He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the greatest and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 29: 1, 4-7

Jody

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

Sermon

“Welcome to Babylon”

Jody

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

Katie

I believe in God, the Great Sewer—
Who weaves us together in community,
Collecting our loose ends and turning them into belonging.
I believe in the Holy Spirit—
Who hems us in before and behind,
Catching us when we fall and writing us into God’s holy narrative.
And I believe in Jesus Christ—
Who loved and claimed the people society had thrown out,
refusing to disregard anyone as scrap.
I believe God has woven part of God’s self into the fiber of our being,
Making us inherently worthy of love and belonging.

I believe the fabric of my life is weak,
That I am prone to error and need God’s handiwork to remind me of love.

I believe in the Church, and that like a quilt of different fabrics,
She is designed to be as diverse and beautiful as God’s creation.

And I believe that when life unravels,
God is there to stitch my wounds together,
To hold me in the palm of God’s hand,
To tell me of love,
And to invite me into a new journey.
Amen.

Prayers

Jennie

Sung Prayer

Come and Find the Quiet Center, Stanza 3
***In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,
Let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:
There's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,
In the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare.***

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,

forever. Amen.

Invitation to Offering

Katie

To give: ● return to our website and click on the giving tab or

● text givePHPC to 73256 or

● mail your offering to the church – 3700 Pleasant Hill Road Duluth, GA 30096

Prayer of Dedication

Katie

Hymn 338

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

THE LIFE OF THE NATIONS

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies 338

1 O beau-ti-ful for spa-cious skies, for am-ber waves of grain,
2 O beau-ti-ful for he-roes proved in lib-er-at-ing strife,
3 O beau-ti-ful for pa-triot dream that sees be-yond the years

for pur-ple moun-tain maj-es-ties a-bove the fruit-ed plain!
who more than self their coun-try loved, and mer-cy more than life!
thine al-a-bas-ter cit-ies gleam, un-dimmed by hu-man tears!

A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed his grace on thee,
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God mend thine ev-ery flaw;
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! May God thy gold re-fine

and crown thy good with *broth-er-hood from sea to shin-ing sea!
con-firm thy soul in self-con-trol, thy lib-er-ty in law!
till all suc-cess be no-ble-ness and ev-ery gain di-vine!

*Or "servanthood"

This text (inspired by the vista from Pike's Peak and by a visit to Chicago's Columbian World Exposition) and tune (named MATERNA because it was composed for "O Mother, Dear Jerusalem") were joined in 1912. The combination proved immensely popular during World War I and afterwards.

TEXT: Katharine Lee Bates, 1893, alt.
MUSIC: Samuel Augustus Ward, 1882

MATERNA
CMD

Following the Word into the World

Sabbatical Sending

Jennie, Katie, Jody, Mary Don King

Charge and Benediction*

Jody and congregation

One: When our plans fall apart,

All: May God weave us together with love.

One: When life falls apart,

All: Our unraveling is an end, but not the end.

One: The weaving helps us embody the promise of the Great Weaver,

All: That our loose ends can be woven into something new and beautiful.

One: Coming unraveled and being woven back together is not linear or predictable.

All: We participate in this ongoing process with all of creation.

One: We set aside our fear of unraveling and put our faith in the Lord.

All: Together, with Jesus Christ as our guide, we offer ourselves for unraveling.

We affirm God's presence, guidance, and immeasurable love as we are woven into someone or something new. Amen.

Postlude

Prelude in Classic Style

By Gordon Young

*adapted from A Sanctified Art and Rev. Andy Acton