

New Hope Presbyterian Church
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 9, 2020

CALL to WORSHIP

Isaiah 40:31

“Those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.”

WE NEED THIS KIND OF HOPE.

Come; worship the Holy One who meets us where we are.

COME; LET US OPEN OURSELVES TO THE GOD WHO LIFTS US UP; WE ARE HERE TO WORSHIP; FOR WE ARE GOD’S PEOPLE.

HYMN

“Psalm 105”

[to the tune of #52 red, “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”]

Rejoice, you faithful, in the Lord,
A song of thanks now raise;
For all the goodness to us giv’n,
Unite to sing God’s praise.

The miracles God’s grace fulfills
Are wrought for our avail;
How blessed are they whose hearts confirm
God’s love will never fail!

The just rewards of unbelief
Are fashioned through our fears;
And nightmares, once imagined, gain
Their flesh when doubt appears.

But to the stalwart in their faith
God’s blessings are displayed;
They sing with joy, the chosen ones
Whose hope in God is stayed.

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PRAYER of CONFESSION

God is here. Christ is present. The Holy Spirit surrounds us. But we turn our eyes to the challenges of this life. We lose our focus on God and we are sinking down. We can begin again. We can imagine a new way of being. But we cast aside our dreams to maintain the familiar. We cast aside the dreams of others, fearful of what they may mean. BUT, God loves us, Christ will lift us from the waves of doubt, and the Holy Spirit will rescue us from currents of despair and insecurity. Let us reach out; let us confess all that separates us from God and one another...SILENCE

ASSURANCE of PARDON

Take heart, do not be afraid. Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved. We are forgiven!

THANKS BE TO GOD!

GLORIA PATRI

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 37:18-28

18 His brothers saw Joseph in the distance, and before he reached them, they plotted to kill him. **19** 'Here comes that dreamer!' they said to each other. **20** 'Come now, let's kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him. Then we'll see what comes of his dreams.' **21** When Reuben heard this, he tried to rescue him from their hands. 'Let's not take his life,' he said. **22** 'Don't shed any blood. Throw him into this cistern here in the wilderness, but don't lay a hand on him.' Reuben said this to rescue him from them and take him back to his father. **23** So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe – the ornate robe he was wearing – **24** and they took him and threw him into the cistern. The cistern was empty; there was no water in it.

25 As they sat down to eat their meal, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead. Their camels were loaded with spices, balm and myrrh, and they were on their way to take them down to Egypt. **26** Judah said to his brothers, 'What will we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? **27** Come, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood.' His brothers agreed. **28** So when the Midianite merchants came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 14:22-33

22 Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. **23** After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, **24** and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. **25** Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. **26** When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. 'It's a ghost,' they said, and cried out in fear. **27** But Jesus immediately said to them: 'Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.'

28 'Lord, if it's you,' Peter replied, 'tell me to come to you on the water.' **29** 'Come,' he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came towards Jesus. **30** But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, 'Lord, save me!' **31** Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. 'You of little faith,' he said, 'why did you doubt?' **32** And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. **33** Then those who were in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

SERMON

“Joseph’s ‘Good Luck’”

*“We know that in everything God works for good with those who love Him,
who are called according to His purpose.”*

Romans 8:28

TIME of SELF OFFERING

PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Verse 1

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy pow'ful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.

Verse 2

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through;
Strong Deliverer, Strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield,
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

Verse 3

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Bear me thro' the swelling current,
Land me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to Thee,
I will ever sing to Thee.

TEXT: William Williams MUSIC: John Hughes
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