

Order of Worship for Sunday, August 16, 2020
PENTECOST 11A

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A handwritten message in black ink on a white background that says "Happy Birthday!" with a small flourish at the end.

August 20 – Vera Forster

A handwritten message in black ink on a white background that says "Happy Anniversary" in a cursive script.

August 19 – Bev & Noel Little

MISSION OPPORTUNITY

School Supplies Needed for Refugee Children – Mary’s Place

We are collecting pencils, pencil boxes, and backpacks for children grades K-12.
For more information, contact Barb Hamilton.

Walk to End Alzheimers – Saturday, October 10

Ellen Best will be the JCPC team captain for the Walk to End Alzheimers again this year. Our team name is John Calvin Presbyterian Church for anyone who would like to register and/or donate to this worthy cause. The walk will be Sat. Oct. 10th in our own neighborhoods however we want to set it up this year. That allows for small groups instead of a large gathering. Plan at this time is that anyone who would like to walk can meet at the church, 10:00 AM and we will walk through the surrounding neighborhood for as short or long as people would like. Once we know who is walking, we can determine the course, especially if the weather makes a difference. It was quite rainy last year!

PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS

Please feel free to email prayer joys and concerns to Rev. Marie at myhansel@yahoo.com and they will be shared with the congregation as a whole so we may continue to support one another. If you wish to share a prayer concern only with Rev. Marie that request will be honored.

FELLOWSHIP & DEVOTION WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 P.M.

Rev. Marie is offering a one hour time of scripture, devotion, fellowship and prayer each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. The link to access the “meeting” and password will be sent in a separate email.

PRESENTING OUR LIVES AND OUR OFFERINGS

God, your providence is evident when we take a long, loving look at our lives. The twists and turns, the disappointments and hurts, none of them were absent of your grace and purpose. Aware that you do not reject or abandon us, but remain with us always, we respond with gratitude, giving in joy our morning’s offering with confidence you will use it to reveal your care to others. Amen.

Please mail your offering to the address below each week to support the ministry of the church.

*John Calvin Presbyterian Church
Attn: Financial Secretary
P.O. Box 103, Henrietta, NY 14467*

PRELUDE Bach Prelude in A Major played by John Sheridan

Bach's Prelude in A Major, BWV 536, played on the Craighead-Saunders organ at Christ Church, Rochester, NY, summer of 2014. The pedalboard only goes up to middle D, thus the change in a couple notes, and also a couple flubbed notes later when I forget and tried to play a high E, but I release the video in any case simply because the organ and the piece are both so beautiful.

<https://vimeo.com/156970202>

CALL TO WORSHIP ⁴ (*Psalm 67:1-7*)

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,
that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere the Lord.

HYMN "Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above"

<https://vimeo.com/421904214>

**Sing praise to God who reigns above, The God of all creation,
The God of power, the God of love, The God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled, And every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory!**

**What God's almighty power hath made, God's gracious mercy keepeth;
By morning glow or evening shade God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.
Within the kingdom of God's might, Lo! All is just and all is right.
To God all praise and glory!**

**The Lord is never far away, But through all grief distressing,
An ever present help and stay, Our peace, and joy, and blessing;
As with a mother's tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory!**

**Thus all my gladsome way along, I sing aloud Thy praises
That all may hear the grateful song My voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, Both soul and body take your part:
To God all praise and glory!**

CALL TO CONFESSION ⁴

The gifts and calling of God are irrevocable. God will not reject God's people. Knowing God is merciful and abounding in steadfast love, always willing to hear our prayers and accept our heartfelt confession, we turn to our Lord with boldness, speaking aloud the ways we fail to be the people God call us to be.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION ⁴

God of all people, we come before you this day keenly aware of the ways we fall short of your vision for us and for our life together. You tell us how good and pleasant it is when we dwell together in unity, and yet we create division and cultivate disdain.

You call us to care for each other, but we send away those crying out for help. You call us and put us together in community, but we want to pick and choose those with whom we associate.

Forgive us for thinking we are self-sufficient and independent, rather than utterly dependent on you and in need of each other. Help us to see ourselves and others as the beloved reflections of the divine we are and give us grace to treat each other as such.

Silence is kept.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*Romans 11*)

God does not reject God's people. God is merciful to all.

Friends, believe the good news and be at peace: Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

GRATEFUL RESPONSE "Gloria Patri"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUBxpypSblw>

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

World without end. Amen. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

Jesus came to bring peace among us.

Let us sow the seeds for peace in our world by sharing the peace of Christ with one another, stranger and friend alike.

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Perhaps you could take some time today to send an email, make a phone call, send a card to someone who would appreciate knowing that they are not alone.

ANTHEM “Laudamus Te” from Gloria – Antonio Vivaldi
Abigail Carpenter and Rebecca McQuilken, voice; Alla Kuznetsov, piano

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CYzrSKYtPbM>

We Praise You

We praise you,
We bless you,
We adore you,
We glorify you,
We praise you,
We bless you,
We adore you,
We glorify you, we glorify you,
We adore you, we adore you,
We glorify you,
We praise you,
We bless you,
We adore you,
We glorify you,
We adore you, we adore you,
We glorify you, we glorify you!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION⁴

Lord, the noise all around us is loud and frightening. We find ourselves anxious and distracted, worried about much we cannot control. We long to hear you tell us to not be afraid. We ask again for the gift of your peace that passes understanding. As the Word is read and proclaimed, send your Holy Spirit to help us rightly hear and respond. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 133

¹How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

²It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.

³It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

Matthew 15:21-28

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

SERMON

"Jesus on Vacation"

Rev. Dr. James Somerville
Pastor of Richmond's First Baptist Church

<https://vimeo.com/227081285>

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(The Confession of 1967, section on the Holy Spirit)*

God the Holy Spirit fulfills the work of reconciliation in human life. The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church as the community in which people are reconciled to God and to one another.

The Spirit enables people to receive forgiveness as they forgive one another and to enjoy the peace of God as they make peace among themselves. In spite of their sin, the Spirit gives people power to become representatives of Jesus Christ and his gospel of reconciliation to all.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

<https://vimeo.com/56598320>

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ⁴

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Prayers for Carolyn Wilson who suffered a major stroke was in Strong. She has made a good recovery except she has not regained strength in her legs and is unable to walk on her own. She may be moved to a nursing home for physical therapy and on-going care. Prayers for daughter Jennifer Wilson who lives with Carolyn. Also prayers for daughter Carolee.

Prayers for Cindy Freeman who had a close encounter with a tree root while walking her dog in the woods. She fell hard on both knees and now has bursitis in one knee.

Prayer of joy and thanksgiving for Carl Dellefave's successful surgery and good news that no further cancer was found. Prayers for continued healing.

For Judy Finch who is now in hospice care at St. John's.

For RNS as they prepare for the new school year.

For the session of JCPC as plans are underway to resume in person worship beginning Sunday, September 6.

For Nancy Milizia's Aunt Marty who has lung cancer and is now in hospice care at home.

For the people of Beirut, Lebanon who experienced the August 4 explosion that killed at least 160 people and injured 6,000 others leaving many homeless.

Good and gracious God, so many of your people are hurting. There seems no end in sight to the uncertainty and pain of this season. Parents and caregivers are worried about children's well-being as the school year approaches and the pandemic persists. Those living in group care facilities yearn to be able to have visitors again and the loneliness of those already isolated grows. The economic fallout from this virus gets deeper and wider as many scramble to find work and put food on the table. It feels, at times, as if we call out to you and you do not respond. Like the Canaanite woman, we shout for mercy, but we receive no help. Yet, she kept calling out to you, kept following you, refused to be turned away until you healed her daughter.

We call out to you now, Lord Christ: Have mercy on us. Hear our cries. Help us.

We call out for mercy for those on the frontlines of fighting for justice.

We call out for mercy for those on the frontlines of fighting this pandemic.

We call out for mercy for those grieving the death of loved ones.

We call out for mercy for the sick and those who tend them.

We call out for mercy for the scared and those who comfort them.

We call out for mercy for those without food or housing, medical care or community.

We call out for mercy on behalf of those who do not have the strength to raise their own voices.

We call out for mercy for ourselves, trusting you know our deepest needs even if we do not have the wisdom to name them.

Hear us, Lord. Heal us, Lord. Help us, Lord.

When we fear you have walked away from us in our desperation, send your Holy Spirit to remind us once again that God does not reject God's people, that the call and gifts of God are irrevocable. Embed in us the biblical stories that teach us that even that which we intend for evil, you, Lord God, use for good. Grant us the faith of the Canaanite woman so that we will persist in advocating for the vulnerable and hurting no matter how long it takes for our world to be made well.

Give us faith, Almighty God, to keep focused on our Savior, following the Way, loving you and our neighbors, until the One we worship comes again and come he will. We make our prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to say when we pray,

THE LORD'S PRAYER (sins)

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***HYMN "God Be with You"**

https://video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?fr=yhs-iry-fullyhosted_003&hsimp=yhs-fullyhosted_003&hspart=iry&p=god+be+with+you+till+we+meet+again+lyrics#action=view&id=5&vid=5e1040b5cb125da765607b05952efbfd

**God be with you till we meet again, by his counsels guide, uphold you,
With his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.**

**God be with you till we meet again, 'neath his wings protecting hide you,
Daily manna still provide you; God be with you till we meet again.**

**God be with you till we meet again; if life's perils should confound you,
God will put his arms around you; God be with you till we meet again.**

**God be with you till we meet again, keep love's banner floating o'er you,
Smite death's threatening wave before you; God be with you till we meet again.**

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Go out into the world in peace. Have courage! Hold fast to what is good. Return no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering. Honor all people. Love and serve the Lord your God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, The love of God And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you now and abide with you always. Amen.

CHORAL BENEDICTION

<https://www.facebook.com/texassings/videos/793541934737545/>

MORNING PRAYER³

Merciful God, this day is full of your possibilities for healing and reconciliation, for new beginnings and restored relationships. Unite my heart with your will so that your abundant anointing will flow through me. Send me now with your promised blessings to preserve the lives of those in need. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER³

God of night watches, guard me from torment, release me from distress.
Call me close to you and kiss me with your favor that I may rest secure in you. Amen.

¹*Playing Hopscotch in Heaven Lectionary Liturgies for RCL Year A, Thom M. Shuman, Bearers of Hope and Wonder, 2013*

²*Book of Common Worship for the Presbyterian Church USA, Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville, KY, 1993*

³*Feasting on the Word Worship Companion-Liturgies for Year A – Volume 2, edited by Kimberly Bracken Long; Westminster John Knox Press*

⁴*Presbyterian Outlook, liturgy written by Jill Duffield*