

Order of Worship for Sunday, July 26, 2020

Pentecost 8A

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

- Carol Johnson, July 26

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:

- July 30 – Pat & Darwin Plassche

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.

OPENING HYMN “Gather Us In”

Click on this link if you would like music to sing along.

(WHEN YOU ARE READY, CLICK ON THE BACK ARROW TO RETURN TO THE WORSHIP GUIDE.)

<https://vimeo.com/416186129>

Here in this place, new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away.
See in this space, our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us the blind and the lame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery; we are the old, who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth;
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away,
But here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bones.
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**¹

Come and worship, proclaim God's ways of faithfulness and steadfast love.

We will tell of God's love which unfolds in our lives.

Come and worship, for we are God's people, rejoicing in his graciousness.

God is always with us, there is nothing which can keep us apart.

Come to the One who tells stories; worship our God who keeps promises.

We rejoice with God who is with us always.

INTROIT "God Is Always with Me"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLLsOWdG0GM>

God is always with me. He is here beside me.
Ever in my heart and in my life.

God is in the flowers, in the rain and showers,
In the birds that sing his melodies divine.

Sunny summer days, lift my heart in praise
To my God above, to let him see my love, my love.

God is always with me. He is all around me.
Ever in my mind and in my every prayer.

Lightly falling snow, oceans deep below,
Awesome sunsets glow, help me now to know

God is always with me. He is all around me.
Ever in my mind and in my every prayer.

Nearer my God to Thee, nearer to Thee.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**¹

In this kingdom where the hopeless are thrown into the Lake Forgotten forever, you cast your net, drawing them into your embrace, cradling them in your heart.

In this kingdom where folks turn anorexic gorging on greed, while the poor scratch in famine's fallow fields, you wander in offering top dollar for the pearls of grace they uncover.

In this kingdom where hope and faith, patience and peace have been sold as showpieces for fancy museums, you come, purchasing them back, polishing off the dust, handing them back to us so we can see the reflection of that kingdom you forged for us, God in Community, Holy in One, even as we pray, saying

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.**

***CALL TO RECONCILIATION** ¹

It is not our past which keeps us from God, for that is behind us. It is not our present, for God is with us on this day. And our future is held tight in God's hands. It is true – there is absolutely nothing which can separate us from God. Whatever sins we have committed, God's forgiveness and love take them away forever.

***UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS** ¹

What can we say about our foolish lives, God of Love? Too often we choose to worship power when we could serve others in humility. We toss and turn at night, all those things over which we have no control keeping us wide awake, when we could turn them over to you. No matter how many times we hear the news that death has lost its power over us, we dread that day and try everything we can to postpone it.

For believing that our sins are more powerful than your mercy, forgive us, Grace of the world. You cast out your net of grace so that all might be gathered into your kingdom. Your Spirit carries the whispers of our hearts to you, and we are embraced with your hope, blessed with your love through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Silence is kept.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** ¹ (Responsive)

Who has the right to condemn us? Only Christ. Yet Christ died for us, Christ was raised for us, Christ reigns in power over us – Christ even prays for us!

This is the love that binds us to God forever. There is nothing in this world, or beyond, which will keep us from being God's children.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

HE LOVED ME

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hCt9Bf4RuKI>

He chose me before the world was known, he chose me to be his very own.
He made me and let me choose my way. I chose to move away.

He loved me when hope had taken wing, he loved me when I lost everything.
He bought me; redemption's work was done through Jesus Christ, His Son.

Who shall separate me from the love of God?
Shall dreams of tomorrow, pain, joy or sorrow?
Can the need of food or earthly possessions, the threat of war or man's oppression?
In all these things victory is our reward. Victory is our reward through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Of this I am sure, that neither death, nor life, nor angels nor principalities,
Nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come.
Not height, nor depth, nor any creature shall separate me from the love of God.

Of this I am sure, that neither death, nor life, nor angels nor principalities,
Nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come.
Not height, nor depth, nor any creature shall separate me from the love of God
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

PASSING THE PEACE (Responsive) (based on James 3)

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION³ (Unison)

Spirit of life, we do not know how to pray as we ought. Meet us in words written, in words spoken; intercede for us with sighs too deep for words, until we shine with the hope that is hidden in our hearts, for we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

SERMON

"The Pearl of Great Price"

Raquel St. Clair Lettsome

Raquel St. Clair Lettsome is an itinerant elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church with two decades of congregational ministry experience that transcends denominational lines.

In this week's sermon she looks at the parable of the pearl of great price and compares the Kingdom to that pearl, and everyone looking for that pearl to the merchant that will not rest until he finds it.

<https://vimeo.com/217842801>

***HYMN**

“You Are My All in All”

<https://vimeo.com/95372078>

**You are my strength when I am weak.
You are the treasure that I seek.
You are my all in all.**

**Seeking you as a precious jewel.
Lord to give up, I'd be a fool.
You are my all in all.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.**

**Taking my sin, my cross, my shame.
Rising again, I bless Your name.
You are my all in all.**

**When I fall down, You pick me up.
When I am dry, You fill my cup.
You are my all in all.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.**

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We, the followers of Jesus, strive to share the Good News of God's love and forgiveness offered to all.

We reach out to God through worship, music, praise, prayer and study.

We reach out to one another by sharing fellowship, and sharing in times of challenge and joy.

We reach out to our community and around the world by participating in local and global ministries that feed the hungry, encourage the downtrodden, and comfort and provide for those in need.

In Faith, we follow Christ's redeeming ministry.

In Love led by the Spirit, we help and serve those in need.

With Hope for the coming Kingdom of God, we are blessed by God to be a blessing to others.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE³ (Responsive)

Holy God, we do not know how to pray, but Jesus invites us into the life he shares with you, and so we keep coming—because we want to live. Receive us now in our frailty, our complacency, our desire.

Prayer joys and concerns for this week.

- For Nancy Milizia's Aunt Marty who has lung cancer and is now in home hospice.
- For the family of Nancy's golfing friend Joan who died from COPD.
- For RNS as they prepare for the new school year.
- For Darwin Plassche and the residents and workers at Monroe Community Hospital.
- For Rita Crombe and the residents and personnel at the Legacy as they return to eating in the dining room.
- For the session of JCPC as plans are underway to resume in person worship beginning Sunday, September 6.
- For Linda Cummings' husband Bill as he recovers from hip surgery.
- For Carl Dellefave who is recovering from surgery.
- For Judy Finch who was moved to St. John's and is now in hospice care.
- Prayer request from Gayle Stever: My son Scott's lifetime best friend, Jeremiah, in Arizona whose grandmother died of COVID and who is now caring for his mother (Maria) and other family members with COVID.

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

We pray for your church all over the world, that we would be seed and yeast where life has grown barren and heavy. May the life we discover in you bind us to each other and to the world you love, for no need is beyond the strength of your call, and no child of yours is expendable. Merciful God, give us wisdom and courage beyond our imagining.

We pray for friends and strangers in the grip of addiction. Make us able companions for each other, and bless us with hope that bears fruit.

We pray for unsettled economies and those whose needs are overlooked in the choices of the powerful. May we, who know so much privilege, bear our responsibilities with open hearts and open hands.

We pray for all who stand at the thresholds of life: for your children who are soon to be born and your children who are soon to go home.

We give thanks for new faces to love, ideas to ponder, work to do—and we marvel at the sturdy friendships and persistent memories that sustain us when the way is hard. May each of us be a reminder of your love and your provision.

We thank you for the gift of song—for notes that speak when words fail [and we long for the day when choirs will once again gather in song]. Give strength to leaders who call forth the best from us and invite us to breathe together.

Holy One, keep calling us into the world—your world—as seed and yeast and treasure. Equip each of us for the challenges we will face until we learn to worship in the most unlikely places, for you are the source of our song and the well from which we pray, wherever we are planted.

By the power of your Spirit, we make our prayer with resurrection hope, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

PRESENTING OUR LIVES AND OUR OFFERINGS³

The apostle Paul promises that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. We trust that God will bring forth good from that which we offer today. It is our privilege to participate in the unfolding of God's grace in the world. Let us give with grateful and expectant hearts.

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*

***RESPONSE #34 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

<https://vimeo.com/404078427>

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION³ (Unison)

Holy One, receive these offerings as you receive our lives. Gather our false starts and uncertain efforts, our generosity, and our reluctance. Enliven us with your breath and make your purposes known, that our lives might show forth your glory, for we pray in the name of Jesus and by the power of your Spirit. Amen.

***HYMN #716 “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 ¹ (Responsive)

As you move on into the week ahead, with whatever joys and challenges it holds, do not be discouraged or disheartened. Remember the glory that awaits you as a child of God. Hold on to that truth; live in that hope.

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.

POSTLUDE “God Be With You Till We Meet Again”

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&guc+consent+skip=1595711691#action=view&id=28&vid=d6ce3d5fe7dc208258da1b310ccfbee5

Morning Prayer³

God of ferment, God of life, as I recall the night's unsettled dreams. . .

As I foresee the day's demands. . .

Come to me in the desires of my heart,

in the anger of the excluded,

in all I might discount –

Until I find you everywhere, until your holy love leavens every impulse,

for I pray in the name of Jesus, whose surprising call continues.

Amen.

Evening Prayer³

Joy of my heart,

thank you for this day's unexpected turns:

For provisions when I was stymied and laughter born of grace.

As I rest in your mercy

open my heart to your unruly love and the neighbors

you have put in my path. Amen.

¹*Lectionary Liturgies, Liturgy with communion Thom Shuman*

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*

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 is provided below and will be emailed again on Monday evening with additional resources.

Wednesday, July 29 Genesis 30 and 31 “Speckled Past Spotless Future”

Wednesday, August 5 Genesis 32:22-31 “Not Until You Bless Me”

Wednesday, August 12 Genesis 33 “Limping Toward Forgiveness”

Topic: Wednesday Evening Fellowship and Devotions

Time: Jul 29, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Wed, until Aug 26, 2020, 5 occurrence(s)

Jul 29, 2020 07:00 PM

Aug 5, 2020 07:00 PM

Aug 12, 2020 07:00 PM

Aug 19, 2020 07:00 PM

Aug 26, 2020 07:00 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZlId-](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZlId-2qqDwtEtTOleesNaXhllRB87mPTgzE/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGupjsuGNKStxGHRpwAGoigLOrwpmZaj7dpsxPgBjN9Yzv-Ou5wEOooHejk)

[2qqDwtEtTOleesNaXhllRB87mPTgzE/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGupjsuGNKStxGHRpwAGoigL
OrwpmZaj7dpsxPgBjN9Yzv-Ou5wEOooHejk](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZlId-2qqDwtEtTOleesNaXhllRB87mPTgzE/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGupjsuGNKStxGHRpwAGoigLOrwpmZaj7dpsxPgBjN9Yzv-Ou5wEOooHejk)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86804267780?pwd=dWsxMGVqWDlvdHlhaDM4U09UUHhwUT09>

Meeting ID: 868 0426 7780

Passcode: 476594

One tap mobile

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+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

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Meeting ID: 868 0426 7780

Passcode: 476594

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdIsXAUa0N>