

**CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**A Service for Worship at Home – August 2, 2020**

Revised Common Lectionary Readings  
for the 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/  
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 32:22-31  
Isaiah 55:1-5  
Psalm 17  
Romans 9:1-5  
Matthew 14:13-21

*Allow a moment to take a breath, and quiet your heart and mind before the Lord.*

**Opening Prayer**

*\*adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, (c) 2014 Westminster John Knox Press*

Life-changing God, you whose touch transforms, we reach out in hunger for that which only you can give. Meet us here. May we hold on to you, for you are the God who holds on to us. As we are blessed, may your blessings multiply to others and overflow with your abundance, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.

**Call to Worship**

Psalm 17:1, 7-8\*

Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry  
**give ear to my prayer.**

Wondrously show your steadfast love, O savior of those who seek refuge.

**Guard me as the apple of the eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings**

\*Throughout the summer, as circumstances prevent us from gathering together, and in recognition of all that is going on in our nation and the world, each Sunday's Call to Worship will be from a psalm of lament; and each Sunday's Benediction will include a passage of hope and promise from that same psalm.

**Confession**

Isaiah 55:1-2

*"Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?"*

**God of compassion, we have wrestled all night with worry instead of resting in you. We have asserted our own goodness instead of awakening to yours. We have turned away those hungry for help instead of trusting you and feeding them from your abundant supply of blessings.**

**Forgive us, heal us, and help us to hold on to you.**

\*adapted from Presbyterian Outlook Order of Worship for the 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, August 2, 2020, Rev. Jill Duffield

*(silent confession)*

**Assurance and Peace**

Isaiah 55:6-7

*“Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.”*

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God**

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Scripture**

Genesis 32:22-31  
(New Revised Standard Version)

<sup>22</sup> The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup> He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. <sup>24</sup> Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup> When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup> Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup> So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." <sup>28</sup> Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." <sup>29</sup> Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup> So Jacob called the place Peniel\*, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." <sup>31</sup> The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

*\*in Hebrew, "Peniel" means "the face of God"*

**Sermon**

*A Wrestler's Match*

**Offering**

**Please prayerfully consider the time, talents, or gifts you have received, and how you can give them back to God in love and service to others.**

We understand that these are uncertain and difficult times. But that is all the more reason that the work of the church continues. Please prayerfully continue to give your gifts to this ministry. You can take just a moment to give online through our website, or prepare a check to be mailed.

## Prayer of Dedication and the Prayers of the People

*\*adapted from Presbyterian Outlook Order of Worship for the 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost,  
August 2, 2020, Rev. Jill Duffield*

Lord, we look in awe at the extent of your compassion, the unbounded care you give to all the earth. We rejoice that when we give you whatever we have, you accept it, give God thanks for it, expand its power to provide and allow us to witness the miracles of mercy that ensue as a result. We pray that you would take these very offerings and do with them what you did in that desolate place so long ago, feed people, nurture people, grant relief and give those who are hurting hope and assurance that they are seen and beloved.

God of abundant compassion and extravagant love, we join our hearts and voices in prayer to you, trusting your promise to hear and respond, not as we deserve, but as your mercy dictates. When we look within ourselves, we are chastened by the many ways we fall short of delighting in your law. We heed the advice of the wicked without even recognizing we are neglecting your commandments. We hurt those closest to us, injure those whom you call us to be compassionate toward and dread the consequences of our own behavior. And yet, it is in those dark, lonely places that you appear and bless us, make of us new creations and reshape us for your divine purposes. We praise you for your unwillingness to let us go and we cling to you now as we wrestle with the chaos within and around us. We rejoice that you are present right here in this place.

God of bread and fish, hillsides and healing, we come to you like the crowds, in need of relief, fearful we do not have enough, eager to see Jesus face to face. We heed his instruction to sit and we cannot believe that the Savior of the world serves us and refuses to send us away. Having been satisfied with the bread of heaven, we ask to be a part of distributing the mercy, grace and justice of our Lord. We know we have been blessed in order to be a blessing to others. In that recognition we remember those in our midst who are hungry. As this pandemic continues and many wrestle with unemployment or underemployment or dangerous employment, grant security in all its forms to those most anxious about their well-being and that of those they love. We know that all around us your beloved children long for healing in body, mind or spirit. We know you see them with compassion and want for them abundant life. May we be conduits for Christ's power, embodying your love to all.

So hear us now as we lift up those whose names are known to us. We continue to lift those who mourn: we pray for Judy and her family, mourning the death

of her daughter Joyce; Cynthia, mourning the death of her uncle John; and we continue to lift up Elaine, and Peter and all who mourn the death of loved ones, family and friends alike. We pray for those with COVID-19 – for Paul’s mother; Lord, we continue to pray for those with other health complications – for Jackie and Chuck, Betty’s friends Maria, Charlene, and Theresa; Linda; Marsha and her mother and father. We pray for Jennifer’s sister-in-law Carrie.

We continue to lift up Elaine, Dot, Marilyn, Miriam, Fran and all those at Madonna Manor, Chapel Hill, Highlands, Waterman Lake, Atria and other assisted living communities; and especially the Holiday Health and Rehab as many residents and staff there are bearing the weight of COVID-19 cases. And hear us as each of us lifts up the prayers echoing in our hearts...

*(personal prayers)*

God of blessing and sending, we cannot count all the ways you come to us and give us that which we need. We revel in the beauty of creation. We relish the care of friends and family. We enjoy the taste of food, the voice of a loved one, and the everyday mercies that are new every morning. As we sing our praise and express our thanks, we ask you to empower us to participate in your compassionate care for all the earth and every creature upon it. We pray in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, who taught us to say when we pray

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

### **Charge and Benediction**

Psalm 17:13, 15

Rise up, O LORD!

**As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness**

When I awake

**I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.**

*May the love of God the Father, the grace of Jesus the Son, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now, and forevermore. Amen.*