



Online Worship Resource (Sunday, July 3, 2022)

BOLD TYPE IS SPOKEN BY THE CONGREGATION

FLOWERS: Given to the glory of God by the Kerr's celebrating Abbie's birth.

Prelude: **GOD'S TIME IS BEST** J. S. Bach
*"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap,
if we do not give up." - Galatians 6:9*
Jane Kerr, Organist

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: (Psalm 30) Charles Frempong, Liturgist
Please stand as you are led and join me in our responsive Call to Worship:
I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up and did not let my foes
rejoice over me.

O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among
those gone down to the Pit.

**Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his
holy name.**

For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

As for me, I said in my prosperity, 'I shall never be moved.'

By your favor, O LORD, you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face; I was dismayed.

To you, O LORD, I cried, and to the LORD I made supplication:

"What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit?

Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?

Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me! O LORD, be my helper!"

**You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my
sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and
not be silent.**

O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Together let us worship and praise God.

Opening Hymn: "Come Sing to God"

Come sing to God, O living saints, sing praises to God's name. God's anger is not permanent; God's love will never wane. Though tears may tarry for the night with sighs of deepest pain, yet joy comes with the morning sun, a peace that is not vain.

In my success I felt secure; how good you've been to me. I said that this is my own work, ascribing all to me. But when you turned aside your face, my life was filled with fears. I begged for help; to you I cried with loud and bitter tears.

What good is gained by my disgrace, what profit in defeat? My grave cannot confess your name, nor praise for you repeat. Now hear, O Lord, my plaintive cry; be merciful to me. Accept my longing heart's request and from death set me free.

You change my grief to joy-filled dance; my sorrows you destroy. In faithfulness you hear my cry and fill my life with joy. And so to you my heart shall sing; my voice your goodness raise. You are my God, forevermore. My life shall sing your praise.

***Passing of the Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you all;

And also with you.

Pastoral Prayer

Time with Children

Pam Williams

Prayer for Illumination

(Liturgist)

Let us prepare our hearts to hear God's Word by praying together the Prayer for Illumination:

Your Word, O Lord, is a light unto our feet and a lamp to our path. Inspire your Word once again that we may walk on your paths. Amen.

Scripture Reading 2 Kings 5:1-14

¹ Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favour with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy.

² Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, 'If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.' ⁴ So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. ⁵ And the king of Aram said, 'Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel.'

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. ⁶ He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, 'When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy.' ⁷ When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, 'Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me.'

⁸ But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, 'Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel.' ⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, 'Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.' ¹¹ But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, 'I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than

all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?’

He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³ But his servants approached and said to him, ‘Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, “Wash, and be clean”?’ ¹⁴ So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

⁷ Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸ If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹ So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“The Healing Waters of Jordan”

Rev. Dr. Bryan Mickle

Hymn after Sermon: “There Is a Balm in Gilead”

Refrain: There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work’s in vain, but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. **Refrain**

Don’t ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend, and if you lack for knowledge, he’ll not refuse to lend. **Refrain**

If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, “He died for all.” **Refrain**

Call to offering

(Liturgist)

In gratitude for all that God has done for us, we offer back to God our gifts with joy. Thank you for your generous support of all that the Spirit is doing through this church to build up God's kingdom among us and our neighbors. Please join me in our prayer of dedication:

Prayer of Dedication:

Holy One, thank you for the joy of sharing these gifts. Empower us to take them out into a world filled with distress and use them for calm. Help us to take them out into a world filled with pain and use them for healing. Help us to take them out into a world filled with despair and use them to create hope. In the name of Christ, we ask it. Amen.

To Share in the Lord's Supper

Call to Confession

Rev. Dr. Bryan Mickle

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth of God is not in us. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin:

Prayer of Confession

O God, whose love is our security and whose law is a continuing demand, we confess that we have too many worries in our daily lives and too little trust in the Divine Wisdom. We have magnified our problems out of all proportion to the ordinary burdens that all people have, and we have allowed the glitter of this world's passing pageant to blind us to the treasures of heaven. Forgive us for these failures to trust thee, O God, and come to us again this day with a new calling to repentance through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and merciful and will forgive us:

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

Response: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Almighty God, you commanded light to shine out of darkness, . . .

Therefore, with apostles and prophets and that great cloud of witnesses who live with you forever and ever, we lift our hearts in praise:

Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!

My heart knows how to say to you: you are holy, Lord!

We praise you, most holy God, . . .

(The words of institution)

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took the bread, and after giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, as I ministering in his name, give this bread to you, saying "This is my body broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, he took the cup, and said, "This cup is the New Covenant sealed in my blood for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink of it, remember me."

Sisters and brothers, these are the gifts of God for the people of God. Let us partake with joy.

The Communion of the People

Communion will be served by "intinction." Please come up the center aisle, take a piece of the bread, dip it into the cup, and return to your pew by the side aisle. Individual communion kits are also available.

Prayer after Communion;

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service. We give ourselves to you, and ask that our daily living may be a demonstration of your kingdom May our love be your love reaching out into the brokenness of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Hymn: "My Country, 'Tis of Thee"

My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing: land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride, from every mountain side let freedom ring.

Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song. Let mortal tongues awake; let all that breathe partake; let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing. Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light; protect us by thy might, great God, our King.

*Benediction

*Postlude: **O Beautiful for Spacious Skies**

REV. DR. BRYAN H. MICKLE

Bryan Mickle was born in Wheeling, West Virginia. He was raised in Atlanta, Georgia. He earned his Bachelors' Degree in English Literature from Presbyterian College, and went on to earn his M. Div. and D. Min. degrees at Columbia Theological Seminary.

He spent a "gap-year" on the Island of St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands National Park as a bi-vocational minister. His formal pastorates were First Presbyterian, Havana, FL; First Presbyterian, Fort Walton Beach, FL; the North Lakeland Presbyterian Church (NCD), Lakeland, FL; First Presbyterian, Arlington, VA. Rev. Mickle is now an Honorably Retired member of National Capitol Presbytery.

Bryan and his wife Fran have been married 39 years and are the proud parents of daughter Elizabeth (living in D.C.) and son Stephen (living in Atlanta).

Today's Worship Participants:

Rev. Dr. Bryan H. Mickle, guest preacher, Jane Kerr, organist,
Charles Frempong, liturgist, Pam Williams, children's time,
Margaret Yeboah and Gina Adu-Gyamfi, communion preparers
and Gabriel Frempong, technology team