

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PHILIPSTOWN

Loving God...Loving Neighbor...for 190 years



WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

24 January 2021 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 62, Mark 1:14-20)

One: It is time to become focused, not on our wants or complaints, but on God:

ALL: In the silent places of my soul I turn to God, for God alone is my rock and salvation.

One: Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the good news of God, saying the time has come, the realm of God is at hand,

ALL: The realm of God is not very far from any one of us, for in God we live and move and have our being.

One: Jesus said, repent and believe the good news.

ALL: The time has come. In the silent places of my soul, I turn to God, for God alone is my rock and salvation.

OPENING PRAYER (Together)

You call us, Wanderer of seashores and sidewalks, inviting us to sail out of our snug harbors into the uncharted waters of faith, to wander off from our predictable paths to follow You into the unpredictable footsteps of the kingdom; to leave the comfort of our homes and accompany You into the uncomfortable neighborhoods we usually avoid. As we wait, in our simple, sometimes crazy, constantly uncertain lives, speak to us, Spirit of Grace of that hope which is our anchor; of that peace which is our rock; of that grace which is our refuge.

Amen.

HYMN 439

“In Christ There Is No East Or West”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (All)

Our comfortable lives convince us we do not need to follow Jesus, Steadfast God. Our work provides for our wants, so we have no need for your grace. Our friends are found through social media, so we do not need your community. Our fear of the beliefs and cultures of others makes us sure that we do not need to share your grace with them. Compassionate God, forgive us for dragging our feet as Jesus' disciples. May we get up from our comfort zones, say “Yes” to your call, and step out in faith. May we go to all the uncomfortable places to bring hope. May we proclaim not only with our lips, but also with our lives, that the kingdom of love, brought by Jesus Christ, is near. [*Silent Prayer*]

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

Offering may be mailed to FPCP 10 Academy Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516 or done online via our website www.presbychurchcoldspring.org.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

FIRST READING

Mark 1:14-20

SECOND READING

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

REFLECTION

HYMN 2137 (STF)

“Would I Have Answered When You Called? ”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN 345

“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”

(Use substitute for first phrase: Dear Lord, Creator Good and Kind)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

We are grateful to Elder Susan Jordan for planning and leading today’s service, to Annie Becker for her assistance as worship leader, and to Tom McCoy for his music recordings of our prelude, hymns, and postlude.

HYMN TEXTS

In Christ There Is No East Or West

**In Christ there is no East or West, in Him no South or North;
But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.**

**In Him shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord, Close-binding humankind.**

**Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate’er your race may be!
All children of the living God are surely kin to me.**

**In Christ now meet both East and West, in Him meet North and South;
All Christly souls are one in Him throughout the whole wide earth.**

Would I Have Answered When You Called?

Would I have answered when you called, Come, follow, follow me!""?
Would I at once have left behind both work and family?
Or would the old, familiar round have held me by its claim
and kept the spark within my heart from bursting into flame?

Would I have followed where you led through ancient Galilee,
On roads unknown, by ways untried, beyond security?
Or would I soon have hurried back where home and comfort drew,
Where truth you taught would not disturb the ordered world I knew?

Would I have matched my step with yours when crowds cried, ""Crucify!""
When on a rocky hill I saw a cross against the sky?
Or would I too have slipped away and left you there alone,
A dying king with crown of thorns upon a terrible throne?

O Christ, I cannot search my heart through all its tangled ways,
Nor can I with a certain mind my steadfastness appraise.
I only pray that when you call, "Come, follow, follow me!"
You'll give me strength beyond my own to follow faithfully.

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind (Dear Lord, Creator Good and Kind)

Dear Lord, Creator, good and kind, forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper rev'rence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard beside the Syrian sea
The gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word,
Rise up and follow Thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee, O calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with Thee the silence of eternity,
Interpreted by love!

Drop Thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire Thy coolness and Thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small Voice of calm.