

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

11:00 a.m.

January 17, 2021

Prelude

Shall We Gather at the River

Traditional, arr. Andrew

Welcome (Emily)

ADORATION

Call to Worship (Beatrice Laryea)

1 Sam. 3:9

The one who calls us together this day yearns for each one of us and for all people to hear and be blessed.

Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.

Blessed is the One who comes bringing trustworthy words for the healing of the world.

Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.

Hymn 317 verses 1 & 2

In Christ There is No East or West

MC KEE

CONFESSION

Call to Confession (Beatrice Laryea)

Assured that the One who calls us to hear and obey already knows the confessions of our hearts and is ready to forgive, let us confess our sin before God and before one another.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you see into each of us and know us fully as creatures in need of your constant care.

We confess that we have neither heard your word nor followed your will. We have failed our nation, neighbors, families, friends, and ourselves. Give us ears to hear your wisdom. Lead us to honesty and faith, so that we may begin again with renewed strength; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

God knows the hearts of those who seek forgiveness, and by grace you have been saved. In Jesus' name you are forgiven. Your sins are no more. God strengthens you with freedom through the Holy Spirit. Hear and believe the good news that comes from God.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Hymn 317 verse 3

In Christ There Is No East or West

MC KEE

PROCLAMATION

Time with the Children (Emily)

Prayer for Illumination (Brad McAuliffe)

Scripture Readings

Luke 2:7-11
Revelation 1:9-20

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“We Are Not Alone”

The Rev. Dr. Brian K. Blount

President and Professor of New Testament at Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, VA

* The congregation may stand.

RESPONSE

Song by Wells Memorial United Methodist Church

The Work of Christmas

Howard Thurman

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among brothers,
To make music from the heart.*

Text by Howard Thurman (1899-1981)

Music by Dan Forrest (ASCAP)

© Copyright 2014 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

All rights reserved.

(used with permission)

Litany of Call for a New Year (Chris McAuliffe)

A child once dreamed the Voice was calling his name . . . “Samuel”; fisherman once heard the Voice when a young man bid them follow; and still the Voice beckons today . . . can you hear?

Here I am. Send me.

Moses protested vehemently as the Voice spoke at the burning bush; Mary stood amazed as the Voice proclaimed impending birth; and still the Voice beckons today . . . can you hear?

Here I am. Send me.

Rosa Parks followed the Voice to the front of the bus; Martin Luther King, Jr. heard the Voice as he preached and taught; and still the Voice beckons today . . . can you hear?

Here I am. Send me.

A timid believer pauses to listen to the Voice; a struggling church hears the Voice and turns; and still the Voice beckons today . . . can you hear?

Here I am. Send me.

Prayers of the People (Emily)

The Lord's Prayer

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

Hymn 317 verse 4

In Christ There Is No East or West

MC KEE

Community Life and Offering (Chris McAuliffe)

Sunday morning Christian Education classes for adults and children have resumed. All are invited to join these classes which continue on Zoom at 9:45am. In the adult class next Sunday The Rev. Dr. John Yieh will lead the third and final session on the Parables of Jesus. Join Zoom Fellowship after worship today and

participate in the Team Trivia which will be a fun way to “see” others. There is youth group tonight at 5:00 pm by Zoom. It is crucial for our spiritual well-being to stay connected with one another and Christ. To that end we strongly encourage you to join a small group Bible Study or Book Study in order to deepen your Christian walk and stay connected. The Zoom IDs for the Wednesday Bible Study and other Bible and Book studies may be found in the Thursday Spirit, on the church website, or contact Pastor Emily to learn of ways God may be calling you to serve in 2021. She would love to hear from you at Emily.Dandrea@potomacpresbyterian.org

There are many ways to be involved with Christ’s ministry at Potomac Presbyterian Church. Notice on your screen how you may give financially by mail, online, or text. All of your financial donations are greatly appreciated. In this most unusual time, we are grateful for any and all of your financial support in order to sustain ministry, as well as carry out our vision, Caring for ALL with Faith, Hope & Love.

Let us pray about how God may be calling us to renew our commitment to service:

Prayer of Dedication

Bless in every way, O Lord, the gifts of the people here given. Enrich the ministries of your people, and make us grateful to be able to let go of the things we do not finally own. Amen.

Hymn

God of Love We’ve Known Division

BEACH SPRING

Text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

♪ God of love, we’ve known division and we’ve seen its awful cost.
We have struggled as a nation, and there’s much that we have lost.
We have been a house divided — and, divided, we can’t stand.
May our nation be united; give us peace throughout this land.

Turn us, Lord, from what divides us — fear that drives us far apart,
greed that leads to great injustice, racist ways that break your heart.
May we seek what brings together — hearts that bear each other’s pain,
care and mercy toward our neighbors, love that welcomes strangers in.

May we all, in conversation, speak the truth and listen well.
May we hear, across this nation, stories others have to tell.
May we learn from other cultures and be blessed by their worldview;
May we serve with one another — loving others, loving you.

You have challenged us to goodness; you have shown a kinder way.
It’s your love that now inspires us as we seek a better day.
May we end our harsh division; may we stop the hate and fear.
Make us one, Lord, as a nation; may we be united here.

Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844; attributed to Benjamin Franklin White (“God Whose Giving Knows No Ending”)

Text: Copyright © 2020 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

Benediction

Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God

S. KARG-ELERT

† Used by permission. License A-721829 OneLicense.net

*Used by permission CCLI 20697384

We celebrate the following birthdays:

1/17 - Thomas Gordon

1/18 - Bradley Mitchell

1/19 - Beth Rudnic

1/19 - Harper Smith, Jane Stanton

1/20 - Andrew Lee

1/21 - Ray Russo

1/23 – Jeanie Bissey, Scarlett Smith

If we are missing your birthday, please contact Jeanne Grillo at admin@potomacpresbyterian.org.

We continue to keep in our prayers: *Members of the Armed Forces and their families; Ruth Andrew*, mother of Tom Andrew; *Paul Arbogast*, brother-in-law of Carol Anne Kamara; *Bill Bayer*, brother of Susan Hougen; *Bob Beardall*, father of Matt Beardall; *Kitty Cowie*; *Jean Fisler*; *Naomi & Bob Gerwin*, sister and brother-in-law of Marcia Boogaard; *Dave Gorman*, son of Nancy Tietjen & brother of Beth Rudnic; *Atef Griess*, brother of Magda Shalaby; *Hartzog family*; *Velma Killion*; *Beatrice Laryea*; *Gloria Leber*; *Melissa Leygan*, granddaughter of Bob and Miriam Conley; *Karen Ruan*; *Nettie Propps*; *Jerry Reck*, uncle of Denise Pierson; *Cam Sanders*, nephew of Marcia Boogaard; *Millie Rowan*; and *Aleta Towle*, cousin of Sally O’Neal.

We pray for health and wholeness for all suffering from COVID-19 and for all medical professionals and researchers seeking a cure, providing care, and helping to alleviate the strain.

We pray that the killing of our fellow Christians in the Armenian church and the destruction of churches in Nagorno Krabakh from attacks and shelling by Azerbaijan and Turkey come to an end.

If you would like to be added to the prayer list, please contact Pastor Emily at emily.dandrea@potomacpresbyterian.org or call the church office at 301-299-6007.

Names will remain on the prayer list for six weeks, unless otherwise requested.