

September 15, 2024 10:30 AM

### **Approaching God in Praise and Prayer**

+All who are able may stand

As you enter this holy space and sacred time, please quiet your mind, meditate on the Scriptures, and pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare you to worship the Living God.

**PRELUDE** 

Nearer, My God, To Thee

Diane Bish Suzanne Shick, organ

WELCOME The Rev. Janice Y. Cook

CALL TO WORSHIP Adapted from Psalm 139

Leader: Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

People: If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there, your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

Leader: If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night',

even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

People: For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works, that I know very well.

Leader: My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret,

intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.

People: In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

Leader: How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

All: I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.

**+ HYMN 41** 

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above! (vv. 1, 3, 4, 5)

LYONS

### + PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Elder Peggy Stackle, liturgist

There are times, Lord, when we feel as though we are strangers to you, our neighbor, and even ourselves. There are moments when an unkind word or hateful assumption is held suspended in the air between us, and it hurts. Take us into your forgiving arms and hold us close. Let us sob and rant into your willing lap so that we might empty ourselves. We want to be filled up with your grace and let your mercy overflow. Forgive us, Lord, when we doubt that it is your intention for our very best. And forgive us when we want less for those around us than we want for ourselves.

#### + MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

+ ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

+ RESPONSE: HYMN 59 The Steadfast Love of the Lord THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; God's mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning, new every morning; great is your faithfulness, O Lord, Great is your faithfulness.

#### + PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

As the congregation shares personal greetings, children 5th grade and younger will meet their Sunday School

leaders at the back of Sanctuary. Youth 6th grade and older will gather in the Youth Room.

#### VILLAGE LIFE

### MOMENT FOR MISSION

Youth Dominican Republic Missions Team

# Offering Ourselves to God

OFFERTORY

Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

Will Thompson

+ RESPONSE: HYMN 606

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

# **Receiving God's Word**

**ANTHEM** 

In My Father's House

Philip Stopford Chancel Choir Juan Carlos Acosta, director

THE WORD READ

John 14:1-14 (NT pg. 144)

Elder Jan Caldwell, lay reader

Leader: The word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.** 

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

"At Home in the Heart of God: Move Into Your 'Forever' Home Now"

The Rev. Janice Y. Cook

# Responding to God's Word

#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Romans 8:38-39

Leader: Do you think anyone is going to be able to drive a wedge between us and Christ's love for us?

People: There is no way! Not trouble, not hard times, not hatred, not hunger, not homelessness, not bullying threats, not backstabbing, not even the worst sins listed in Scripture: They kill us in cold blood because they hate you. We're sitting ducks; they pick us off one by one. None of this fazes us because Jesus loves us. I'm absolutely convinced that nothing—nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us.

*The choir will sing verse one, and the congregation will join on verse 2.* 

### + BENEDICTION

+ CHORAL BENEDICTION

Peace, I Leave With You

Amy Beach

**POSTLUDE** 

Postlude on "Old Hundredth"

Fred Bock

The flowers in worship today are given by Alan and Hanna Goodman in remembrance of their deceased spouses,

Corinne Goodman and Jon Shook who both died in 2010.

"Rest in Eternal Peace."



The Deacon of the Day, Victor Olley, can be found at the Welcome Table after service. If you desire prayer, prayer ministers are available after worship. Please inquire at the Welcome Table.

This service is being livestreamed.

### The Village Church Pastoral & Program Staff

The Rev. Dr. Jack W. Baca, Senior Pastor

Mary Thibodeau, Executive Administrator

Adrian Narlock, Director of Media Ministry

Christine Hecker, Director of Youth Ministry

Michelle Yuen, Director of Children's Ministry

Nancy Betts, Director of Preschool Ministry

Gretchen Scruggs, Director of Missions Ministry

The Rev. Janice Y. Cook, Interim Associate Pastor

Juan Carlos Acosta, Director of Worship Ministry

Calieanne Grossheim, Asst. Director of Worship Ministry

Twyla Arant, Music Ministries Coordinator

Barbara Haran, Contemporary Worship Team Leader

Phyllis Graham, Bell Choir Director

Suzanne Shick, Organist

Gustavo Coria, Facilities Manager



HONOR LOVED ONES WITH A BIBLE OR HYMNAL DEDICATION

SCAN QR CODE TO GIVE ONLINE



# SERMON NOTES

September 15, 2024

"At Home in the Heart of God: Move Into Your 'Forever' Home Now" The Rev. Janice Y. Cook

John 14:1-14 NRSV

### In My Father's House

In my Father's house are many dwellings, and if I go to prepare a place for you,

I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be.

Do not let your hearts be troubled.

You have faith in God: have faith also in me.

In my Father's house are many dwelling places.

If there were not, would I have told you

I am going to prepare a place for you?

Refrain

Where I am going, you know the way.

For I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me.

If you know me, you also know my Father.

Refrain

My spirit will be with you always.

The Advocate, the Spirit of Truth

will remind you all that I have said.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled;

do not be afraid.

I have told you I will come back to you;

have faith in me.

Refrain

### Peace I Leave With You

Peace I leave with you,

I leave with you my peace,
my peace I give unto you.

Not as the world giveth, give I unto you.

Let not your heart be troubled,
let not your heart, your heart, be troubled.