

**5th SUNDAY OF EASTER
GATHER IN GOD’S NAME**

(*=**please stand if you are able**)

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Prayer

L: We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,

P: for we are the church of Jesus Christ!

L: We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,

P: opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!

Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez

Hymn of the Month (See Insert)

“Welcome Into This Place”

Call to Confession

When we come before God, we remember and proclaim who God is: merciful, just, holy, and loving. We must also remember who we are, and we are a people who have not always been the people God has called us to be. We have not always been merciful, just, holy or loving. So let us confess our sin, trusting in God’s goodness to forgive us and create us anew for our lives ahead.

Prayer of Confession GTG#431 Forgive Us Lord /Perdón, Señor

For grievance and injustice; Forgive us, Lord. Aloofness and indifference: Forgive us, Lord. For weakness and transgression: Forgive us, Lord. Resistance and rebellion: Forgive us, Lord

Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you. Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you. We pursue success, realizing it will never be enough. We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty. We turn toward the world and hope we will find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it. Amen.

Por tantas injusticias: Perdón Señor. Por tanta indiferencia: Perdón Señor. Por todas nuestras faltas: Perdón Señor. Por nuestra rebeldía: Perdón Señor.

Forgive us, we pray, and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news! In Christ, we are new creations. The old life is gone, thank God! A new life has begun. Know you are forgiven, and be at peace.

ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Gloria Patri GTG#584**

“Glory, Glory Glory”

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high!

And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased.

¡Gloria, gloria, gloria, en las alturas a Dios!

Y en la tierra, paz a la gente que ama el Señor.

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, may your Holy Spirit open our hearts and minds to your words of love and grace this day. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Exodus 19:1-6

On exactly the third-month anniversary of the Israelites’ leaving the land of Egypt, they came into the Sinai desert. They traveled from Rephidim, came into the Sinai desert, and set up camp there. Israel camped there in front of the mountain while Moses went up to God. The Lord called to him from the mountain, “This is what you should say to Jacob’s household and declare to the Israelites: You saw what I did to the Egyptians, and how I lifted you up on eagles’ wings and brought you to me. So now, if you faithfully obey me and stay true to my covenant, you will be my most precious possession out of all the peoples, since the whole earth belongs to me. You will be a kingdom of priests for me and a holy nation. These are the words you should say to the Israelites.”

L: This is the word of God. **P: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem:

Scripture Reading

Acts 8:26-40

An angel from the Lord spoke to Philip, “At noon, take the road that leads from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a desert road.) So he did. Meanwhile, an Ethiopian man was on his way home from Jerusalem, where he had come to worship. He was a eunuch and an official responsible for the entire treasury of Candace. (Candace is the title given to the Ethiopian queen.) He was reading the prophet Isaiah while sitting in his carriage. The Spirit told Philip, “Approach this carriage and stay with it.” Running up to the carriage, Philip heard the man reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you really understand what you are reading?” The man replied, “Without someone to guide me, how could I?” Then he invited Philip to climb up and sit with him. This was the passage of scripture he was reading: *Like a sheep*

he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent so he didn’t open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was taken away from him. Who can tell the story of his descendants because his life was taken from the earth? The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, about whom does the prophet say this? Is he talking about himself or someone else?” Starting with that passage, Philip proclaimed the good news about Jesus to him. As they went down the road, they came to some water. The eunuch said, “Look! Water! What would keep me from being baptized?” He ordered that the carriage halt. Both Philip and the eunuch went down to the water, where Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Lord’s Spirit suddenly took Philip away. The eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing. Philip found himself in Azotus. He traveled through that area, preaching the good news in all the cities until he reached Caesarea.

L: This is the word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Road of Surprises”

Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez

**Hymn GTG# 641
EHP# 15**

“When In Our Music God is Glorified / Cuando al cantar se glorifica a Dios (v. 1,2)”

Words of Gratitude

Having heard the good news and being assured of God’s love and grace, our only response is one of gratitude. Let us give thanks with what we have and who we are. Let us give our offering.

RESPOND IN GRACE

“Rain Down”

Rain down, rain down, rain down your love on your people

Rain down, rain down, rain down your love God of life.

God of creation, we long for your truth;

You are the water of life that we thirst.

Grant that your love and your peace touch our hearts,

All of our hope lies in you

Rain down, rain down, rain down your love on your people

Rain down, rain down, rain down your love God of life.

*** Doxology**

“Doxology”

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen, amen, amen, amen

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, please accept these gifts and use them for the coming of your kingdom in this time and place. In gratitude for all we have and for your love for us, we pray with thanksgiving. Amen.

Prayers of the People (See insert)

***Lord’s Prayer**

Hymn GTG# 203

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

Announcements

Benediction

God is Good! All the time! All the Time! God is Good!

May you leave this place to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in the world, offering love and grace to all you meet. And may you be blessed by the triune God, Father, Son and Spirit. Amen.

The Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you

People: And also with you

Amen

Postlude

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

Prayers of the People

Gracious God, you have promised to hear us when we pray to you, and we desperately need your guidance and care. We are a people who often walk around with a long list of concerns and worries on our minds. What a gift it is to come and offer them to you — for you are the author of all grace and goodness.

We worry about the state of the world. More people die in Gaza and Ukraine, and we grieve it all. We pray for your peace to come to every war zone in the world and for leaders to be filled with a spirit of reconciliation and care.

We worry about the state of our nation. In the run-up to the presidential election, it seems that divisiveness still reigns and that our very democracy is threatened. Remind us, Lord, of the greater good. May we focus not so much on ourselves, but on what we can do as a nation for those who need help the most. Let us live into our highest ideals and may we be agents of unity in a difficult time.

We worry about our communities. May your hand be in all of our decisions as a community so that we can be a light unto the world.

We worry about our those who are sick and suffering. It is difficult to witness illness, and we give you thanks for all the doctors and medical workers who live into their calling with grace and care. Help us each to offer a kind word and helping hand when we are able. May your Spirit be with all who suffer, giving them each a peace that passes all understanding.

We worry about our families. We pray for your blessing on big families and small families, blood families and families of choice. We pray for our church family. May the bonds of loyalty and love that unite us with others be strengthened and may we share love with all.

Lord, all that we know of goodness and love is found in the person of Jesus Christ and so we now join our voices together in the prayer that he taught us saying, “Our Father...”.



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“A multicultural congregation worshipping together where Jesus Christ is Lord; where men, women, and children share in leadership; and where the strength of our fellowship builds bridges to the community.”

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For offerings please scan the QR code below



EVENTS HAPPENING IN 2024

In person hybrid worship is at 11AM

Zoom link is as follows:

By Computer

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 870 270 865

One tap mobile

+16465588656

Drumming Program will be on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. The next session will be May 6th at 6:00PM in the Fellowship Hall

Hybrid English Bible Study will be on Thursdays at 11AM in the Fellowship Hall. April 25th and May 9th there will be no bible study.

Zoom Link bible study

By computer

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 376 838 854

One tap mobile

+16465588656,Spanish

Spanish Bible Study will be on Wednesdays.

Coffee Hour following worship today

Next Session Meeting will be April 29th at 7PM

The Drumming Program has been invited to play at Central Presbyterian Church of Haverstraw on May 24th. All drummers should arrive by 9:15AM.

Next Worship Team Meeting will be June 4th at 9:30AM

Memorial Service for Rev. Raquel Welty June 29th 11AM. More details to follow.

We will be collecting money and Handwritten Mother's Day Cards for the Women's Bedford Correctional Facility. If you are interested in contributing, please see Pastor Jeniffer.

Presbyterian Women 2024 Churchwide Gathering will be August 8-11, 2024 in St. Louis, Missouri. If you are interested in attending, please register at www.2024pwcwg.org

Please Share your tithes and offerings using the QR code below



Prayers and Praise

Please pray for everyone in leadership

Please pray for children/ families

Please pray for the Otu family

Please pray for the Supina/Ruess family

Please pray for the Sevilla family

Please pray for people struggling with cancer for healing

Please pray for people struggling with mental health

Please pray for leaders, people in a position of authority

Please pray for the Denzer Family

Please pray for Heather Blenkinsopp

Please pray for the Carretta family

Please pray for the Yumart family

Please pray for the Sippel family

Please pray for the Quinoy family

Please pray for Joy and Teresa Zeiden

Please pray for Boateng family

Please Pray for Orr family

Please pray for Kiara Taylor's family

Please pray for Bruce and family

Please pray for Bob

Please pray for Curtis

Please pray for the Bonapace family

Please pray for peace in the world

Please pray for Warren's family

Please pray for Passengers and Crew Members of Ships

Praise Songs and Hymns

Welcome Into This Place

Welcome into this place.

Welcome into this broken vessel.

You desire to abide in the praises of Your people,
so we lift our hands and we lift our hearts
as we offer up this praise unto your name.

When in Our Music God Is Glorified / Cuando al cantar se glorifica a Dios

When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried:
Alleluia!

How often, making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound
Alleluia!

Cuando al cantar se glorifica a Dios
Haciendo a un lado toda vanidad
Es cual la voz que eleva la creación
¡Aleluya! ¡Aleluya

Haciendo música con devoción
se encuentra una nueva dimensión
que a todos mueve a excelsa adoración
¡Aleluya! ¡Aleluya

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love

Refrain:

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love;
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.*

Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them. *(Refrain)*

Neighbors are wealthy and poor,
varied in color and race;
neighbors are near us and far away. *(Refrain)*

These are the ones we should serve;
these are the ones we should love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. *(Refrain)*

Loving puts us on our knees,
willing to wash others' feet;
this is the way we should live like you. *(Refrain)*