

**Clifton Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)**  
*Loving God ~ Loving One Another ~ Loving the World*



October 27, 2024

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 AM *Prayer and Care*

10:00 AM *Worship*

**WE GATHER TOGETHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

*Words in **BOLD** indicate the congregation reading together. Words of the worship leader are in PLAIN type. An asterisk \* indicates that the congregation may stand, as able.*

Gathering Song Presbyterian Hymnal 322

Spirit of the Living God, Fall Afresh On Me

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**  
**Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**  
**... fall afresh on us      ... fall afresh on me**

Time of Prayer and Care

Prelude

**\*Opening Sentences**

One: With what shall we come before the Holy One,  
and bow ourselves before God on High?

**All: God has shown us what is good, and we shall offer it.**

One: God calls us to do what is just.

**All: God calls us to love kindness.**

One: God calls us to walk humbly.

**All: Open us, O God, to live as you call.**

**\* Opening Hymn GtG 753 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace**

**Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.**

**Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.  
Where there is darkness, only light,  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.**

**O, Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.**

**Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving of ourselves that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.**

**Prayer of Confession**

One: Jesus calls us to be in relationship with one another and with God. But sin clings closely, and we struggle to respond fully to Christ's invitation. Let us seek God's forgiveness so that we may live in peace with one another.

One: For all the ways we seek to control others...

**All: God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**

One: For all the ways we squander right relationship...

**All: God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**

One: For all the ways we abuse our freedom...

**All: God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**

One: For all the ways we deny the equality and belovedness of all...

**All: God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**

**Assurance of God's Grace**

One: Jesus said, "I have come to set the prisoner free." No matter what binds you this day. Freedom is yours through new life in Christ. In the name of him who came to loose the chains, you are forgiven and freed.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**The Peace of Christ**

One: Let us take a deep breath together [take a breath]... The rhythm of our breath and heartbeat is the same. Our desire for life and love is the same. Our desire for a peace in which we flourish is the same. Let this moment permeate our souls, and let us pass the

peace of Christ between us. This peace is meant for all people. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

*Those in the sanctuary are invited to greet those around you.*

*Those on zoom are invited to offer greetings in the chat.*

Presbyterian Hymnal PH 438                      **Blest Be the Tie That Binds**  
**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.**  
**The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

### **Offering our Gifts and Prayer of Dedication**

*For those who would like to make a physical offering, the offering plates are available in the middle of the sanctuary. Donations can also be made online. [www.cliftonpc.org](http://www.cliftonpc.org)*

One: With gratitude for God's faithfulness and with thanksgiving for all that we have received, let us bring our gifts to God.

**All: O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, the head of the church and the Lord of our lives. Amen.**

### **WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**

Prayer for Illumination GtG 456 Listen, God Is Calling *(sung twice)*

Leader: Listen,

**All: listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,  
offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.**

### **First Reading Mark 10:35-45(NRSVUE)**

<sup>35</sup> James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." <sup>36</sup> And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" <sup>37</sup> And they said to him, "Appoint us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." <sup>38</sup> But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" <sup>39</sup> They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized you will be baptized, <sup>40</sup> but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to appoint, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

<sup>41</sup> When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. <sup>42</sup> So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. <sup>43</sup> But it is not so among you; instead, whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup> and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup> For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many."

One: God be in our listening, God be in our understanding.

**All: Amen.**

## Anthem

### Second Reading Ephesians 4:1-6 (NRSVUE)

<sup>1</sup> I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup> making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: <sup>4</sup> there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

One: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us,

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Do Unto Others Sermon Series  
Listening and Hearing: Humility

*Diane Walton Hendricks*

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND ARE SENT TO THE WORLD**

Presbyterian Hymnal 376 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, *vv 1,3*

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling;  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion;  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation;  
enter every trembling heart.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

Prayers of the People and 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.**

**Minute for Ministry**

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Charge and Benediction**

**Benediction Response GTG 340 This Is My Song, O God of All the Nations**

*We will be singing a combination of verses 1 and 3*

**This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations:  
myself I give thee; let thy will be done.**

*Thank you for joining us for worship this morning.*

*We can be reached at [office@cliftonpc.org](mailto:office@cliftonpc.org)*

Other prayers and Liturgy adapted from *Do Unto Others* by Worship Design Studio, Dr. Marcia McFee, founder.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from  
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**Thanks to those leading us in worship**

Hosts: Susan and Greg Ferguson

Deacon Note Taker: Beth Corish

Liturgist: Joyce Rarumangkay

Technical Team: Mark Lorey

Sanctuary Flowers: Open

Mission Elder: Kimberly Davis

### **CPC STAFF**

Rev. Dr. Diane Walton Hendricks, Pastor ♦ John Kim, Music Director

Hannah Harris, Lead Vocalist ♦ Debbie Kilpatrick, Office Administrator

Kate Trussell, Preschool Director ♦ Rev. Dr. Lynn Stanton-Hoyle, Pastor Emerita