

Bath Presbyterian Church

May 29, 2022 10:45am

www.bathchurch.org (FaceBook link) On the radio: 105.3 FM

Lighting of the Candle/Ringing of the Bell

Music for Meditation

Welcoming/In the Life of the Church

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Minute for Mission

Call to Worship: (Psalm 97)

One: Yahweh reigns! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad.

All: The heavens proclaim your justice and all the people see your glory.

One: All other gods bow down before you. For you, O God, are Most High over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

All: You love those who hate evil. Light dawns for the just and joy for the upright in heart. We rejoice in God and give praise to God's Holy name. Let us worship God!

Call to Worship in Music: "How Can I Keep from Singing" (refrain only pg 821)

No Storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Call to Confession: The gospel assures us that those who love God will be protected, and those who call out in times of trouble will be answered. With faith and hope, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession (in unison) – Enslaved to sin, we cannot see the lives we lead, God of Glory. Each day, and every day, there are those times when we ignore you and your dreams for us. Each week, and every week, we find the time to ridicule others, when we could have affirmed them. Each moment, and every moment, though we do not want to admit it, we seek our own way rather than skipping down your path of joy and obedience.

We come asking forgiveness for our foolish lives, Eternal Blessing. Deliver us, and break the chains of sin and death which hold us captive. Open us to that grace you offer, and give us the gift of the Spirit so we may live as people of the Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

Assurance of Pardon - Psalm 103 tells us that God is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in love. God does not accuse without merit or harbor anger for long. God does not treat us as our sins deserve or bless us according to our shortcomings. Thanks be to God.

Opening Hymn – #792 "There is a Balm in Gilead"

*The Passing of the Peace

Children's Sermon

1st Scripture Reading – Acts 16: 16-34

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Music for Meditation

2nd Scripture Reading – John 17: 20-26

"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. "Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks Be To God

Sermon: "Loving one another....right now"

***Affirmation of Faith: A New Creed (The United Church)**

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People – 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Sung Prayer response: "When We Are Tested" (tune - Be Thou my Vision #450)

"When we are tempted to barter our souls, trading the truth for the power to control, teach us to worship and praise only you, seeking your will in the work that we do."

Offering

**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."

Offertory Prayer

Closing Hymn - #300 "We Are One in the Spirit"

***Benediction-**

One: May we desire peace for others, and find we are receiving peace ourselves. May we strive to make others feel loved, and find ourselves being the recipient of love more often. May we strive to see beauty in others and find we ourselves have become more beautiful. May we long to give away what God puts in our hearts and discover that we are blessed with what we give to others. Go in peace, today and always. Amen.

Postlude-

Musician: Brad Hitchcock

Lay Leader: Verna Drake