FOURTH SUNDAY IN EASTER
MAY 3, 2020

“We All are One in Jesus Christ” by Soichi Watanabe

“Village Chapel Presbyterian Church is a congregation of God’s people, a lively community of faith, striving to serve God according to God’s ever evolving plan; passionately seeking opportunities to reflect God’s love in our everyday lives through service, humility, self-examination and reflection, study and prayer. We are called to be generous and wise stewards of our God given gifts, talents, money and earthly resources, both as individuals and as the Body of Christ. Our mission, simply stated is that we are called to love, and to serve, and to be beacons of Christ’s endless love and forgiveness, spreading God’s eternal light to all people.”
GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALLED TOGETHER

PRELUDE              “I Know That My Redeemer Liveth”              G.F. Handel

*CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Sisters and brothers, let us gather together with glad and generous hearts.

_for many signs and wonders are being done among us._
Let us break bread together and share our lives in common.

_for us to give what we can to all who have needs so that all people, no matter who they are, may regard us with good will._
Let us devote ourselves to our prayers and to the gospel.

_for in this way God will add to our numbers every day._

*HYMN NO. 39            “Great Is Thy Faithfulness

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. (silent prayers of confession) And all God's people say, Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.

_in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven._ Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE    “The peace of Christ be with you.”    “And also with you!”

*SONG OF PRAISE        “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me” No. 582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

TO RECEIVE GOD’S WORD

1 The Call to worship is from Feasting on the Word, worship companion, Year A, Vol 1, the Confession and Pardon are from the Book of Confessions.
SPECIAL MUSIC                “Come, Ye Blessed”                     J.P. Scott
Howard Salisbury, Bass

GATHERING                          “Where Children Belong”
This, this is where children belong,
Welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.
Water, God’s Word, bread and cup, prayer and song:
This is where children belong.

TIME WITH CHILDREN
SCRIPTURE:      Acts 2:42-47
SERMON          “Building the Church” Dr. Todd Wright

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from A Declaration of Faith (PCUS)

Jesus was dead and buried, but God raised him from the dead. The risen Lord appeared to his followers. They recognized him as their Master who had been crucified. Before Jesus left them, he commissioned them to proclaim to all people the good news of his victory over death, and promised to be with them always.

We are certain that Jesus lives. He lives as God with us, touching all of human life with the presence of God. He lives as one of us with God. Because he shares our humanity and has bound us to himself in love, we have an advocate in the innermost life of God. We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life. His lordship is hidden. The world appears to be dominated by people and systems that do not acknowledge his rule. But his lordship is real. It demands our loyalty and sets us free from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us. We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life. Jesus is Lord. He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord.

*HYMN NO. 515            “I Come with Joy!”      DOVE OF PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

*DOXOLOGY “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” LASST UNS ERREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!”

TO LIVE AS DISCIPLES

*HYMN NO. 30 “We Are One in the Spirit” THEY’LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

*BENEDICATION

*RESPONSE: “God Be with You Till We Meet Again” No. 541

God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd’s care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.

POSTLUDE: “Great Is The Lord” Michael W. Smith, arr. J. Schrader
WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Dr. Todd Wright, preacher; Rev. Dr. Amy Parker, video production; Sharon Curnutte, pianist; Don Parker, guitar; AV tech.

THIS SUNDAY, May 3, 2020
+ 9:45 AM – Sunday School via Zoom
+ 11:00 AM – Worship via Facebook or Zoom
+ 12:05 pm – Fellowship Time via Zoom

THIS WEEK
+ Tuesday May 6, 7:00 PM – Choir Fellowship via ZOOM
+ Wednesday May 7, 7:00 PM – Worship Team Meeting via ZOOM

NEXT SUNDAY, May 10, 2020
+ 9:45 AM – Sunday School via Zoom
+ 11:00 AM – Worship via Facebook or Zoom
+ 12:05 pm – Fellowship Time via Zoom

Those having a birthday this week: Kate Dobson Forman (3rd), Laura Joslin (4th). If we have missed your birthday, please let us know!

PRAYERS FOR: Jeff Smith; Jane Harich; the family of Beverly Boggs; Tonna Smalley; Sheila Danzer; the family of Bonnie Waggy; the family of Gretchen Spella; Beth Haddock; Bertha Miller; Betsy White; Kathryn McCarry; Dave Dawson; Sharon Richardson; Erin Chiparo; Sandy and Leon Copeland; Jeanne MacDonald; Lynn Gunnoe; Martha Foster; Nancy Trotter; Maggie Powell; David Joslin; Steve and Susie Matulis; Tyler Zubick; Helen Singleton; Todd Wright, Amy Parker & their families; the session of Village Chapel

Those in care facilities: Martha Foster, Sherry Russell, Helen Singleton
Those overseas: Matthew Walker
All Students and all Healthcare workers
Military Service: Josie Thomas, Paul Caruso, Rich Jarrett, and John Underhill
Nyeri Presbytery: The Kagumo Parish (Pronounced Kah-GOOM’OH)
WV Council of Churches: United Methodist Church
Churches in the Presbytery of WV: Ruffner Memorial Presbyterian Church, Charleston; South Park Presbyterian Church, Charleston
Missionaries: Steve and Sonia Dettweiler

STAFF
Rev. Dr. Todd Wright, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Amy Parker, Minister of Education and the Arts
Carolyn Perrine, Organist
Leslie Bremar, Secretary
Dionne Canterbury, Children’s Choir Dir.
Sharon Curnutte, Choir Director Emeritus

SESSION
Class of 2020
Jack Grimm
Kathy Kruk
Peggy Palmer
Patty Skaff
Brendan Stump

Class of 2021
Heather Barry
Greg Rader
Sarah Stump
Barbara Tabaretti

Class of 2022
Judy Haddock
Bob Hiser
Jeff Smith
Rona Smith
Clerk of Session
Rose Ann Walker

TRUSTEES
Richard Callard ‘20
John France ‘21
Nancy Wallace ‘22
Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
2 Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,
3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endures,

there is no shadow of turning with thee.
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,

Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
join with all nature in manifold witness
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow;

As thou hast been thou forever will be.
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning, new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22-23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.
I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and
I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are
As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division
The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever
Together met, together bound by all that God has

free, the life of Jesus to recall, in
fed, the new community of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friendship better known, a

done, we’ll go with joy, to give the world the

love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ’s communion bread, in Christ’s communion bread.
strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.
live among us here, live among us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

This text affirms that Christian unity is not achievement but gift, one renewed each time we gather for the Lord’s Supper. Each of us enters as an “I” and leaves as part of “we.” The unadorned language of this text is well matched to the simple shape note tune that sets it here.

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1960; rev. 1993
MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, 1977
Music Arr. © 1977 Hope Publishing Company
We Are One in the Spirit

They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Capo 1: (Em)
(Fm) (Bm) (Em)

1. We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
2. We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
3. We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,

(Am) (Bbm) (Em)
(Fm)

we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son,

(Am) (Bbm) (Em)
(Fm)

and we pray that all unity may one day be restored;
and together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land:
and we’ll guard human dignity and save human pride:
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:

Refrain
(C) (Db) (Em)
(Fm)

And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our

(Am) (Em) (Am) (Bm) (Em) (Am/E) (Em)
(Bbm) Fm Bbm Cm Fm Bbm/F Fm

love; yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

A parish priest at St. Brendan’s on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.

TEXT AND MUSIC: Peter Scholtes, 1966

THE CHURCH

THEY’LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS


7.6.7.6.8.8.6 with refrain