

**An Order of Worship**  
First Presbyterian Church of Kalispell, MT  
August 16, 2020

**Words of Welcome**

**Poem**            *Searching for Shalom* by Ann Weems

**Music**            Steve Eckels

**Call to Worship**

Holy, Holy God,  
Giver of Life, Source of Hope,  
Present in all our questions,  
Hidden in every "Why?"  
Holy, Holy God,  
Walking through every valley,  
Wiping away every tear,  
Blessing each precious memory,  
Letting pass each cry of anger,  
Working for a new day and a renewed song;  
Holy, Holy God,  
Giver of Life, our Source of Hope and Peace.

**Music**            *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*  
Hymn 138 – vs 1, 3, 4

**Confession of Sin**

God declares: Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come and my deliverance be revealed.  
Confident in our deliverance, let us confess our sins before God in prayer.  
*Let us pray. Holy God, we confess we have not been obedient to your will for us.*  
*We have sought justice for ourselves but neglected justice for others.*  
*We have insisted on our rights but have not lived rightly in our relationships.*  
*We have desired mercy for our sins,*  
*but we have not offered mercy to those who have sinned against us.*  
*By the power of your Holy Spirit free us from the prison of our disobedience.*  
*Help us to love as you have loved us*  
*that our lives may testify to your abounding grace through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

**Music**            *Blest Are They*  
Songbook 2155 – vs 1, 3, 5

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Friends, the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.  
Receive the gift of forgiveness and share that gift with others,  
in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Awesome God  
Songbook 2040 – sing twice

Lord, by the power of your Spirit,  
give us your words of life that our faith may increase  
and our hearts be made whole. Amen.

## Psalm 67

- 1 May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,  
Selah
- 2 that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations upon earth.
- Selah
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.
- 7 May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

**Scripture Reading** Genesis 45:1-15

<sup>1</sup> Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. <sup>2</sup> And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. <sup>3</sup> Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

<sup>4</sup> Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup> And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup> For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup> God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup> So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup> Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. <sup>10</sup> You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup> I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ <sup>12</sup> And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. <sup>13</sup> You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” <sup>14</sup> Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. <sup>15</sup> And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

This is the living Word of God ~ thanks be to God!

## **Meditation**

### **Preparing Our Hearts for Prayer**

Matthew 15:21-28

<sup>21</sup> Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." <sup>23</sup> But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." <sup>24</sup> He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." <sup>25</sup> But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." <sup>26</sup> He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>27</sup> She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." <sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

### **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.*

### **Invitation to Give**

**Music**      You Are Mine  
Songbook 2218 ~ entire song

### **Charge and Blessing**

By the power of the Holy Spirit, go forth  
to serve your neighbor,  
to love your enemy,  
and to embody God's mercy  
in the name of Jesus Christ.

The blessings of God, Source of life, Power of life, Redeemer of life,  
be with you now and always.  
Depart in peace. Amen.

### **Music**