



Church of the Hills
Presbyterian Church (USA)

17th Sunday After Pentecost

“God’s Provision”

Exodus 16:2-15

Philippians 1:21-30

Pastor Richard Aylor

September 24, 2023

We are a vibrant family of faith rooted in God’s Word, gathering together to worship and equipped to share the love of Christ in the world.

Prelude

Played by Hanna Wo

Opening Chant -

“Glory to God”

Purple Hymnal 583

“Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory in the highest!
Glory to God, Glory to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!”

Welcome

Pastor Richard Aylor

Moment for Mission - Stewardship

****Call to Worship**

Leader: We will sing to God and bless God’s name forever and ever.

People: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised!

Leader: We will declare God’s mighty acts and celebrate God’s abundant goodness.

People: Let us worship, singing of God’s righteousness.

****Opening Hymn**

“Morning Has Broken”

Purple Hymnal 664

Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain’s new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dew-fall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God’s feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation; praise every morning,
God’s recreation of the new day.

**** Please stand if you are able**

****Invitation to Confession**

Christi Todd

Leader: We try to live our lives in a manner worthy of Christ.

People: We try to stand firm in God's spirit, but our human self-interest gets the better of us.

Leader: In humility and faith, let us confess.

****Prayer of Confession**

Leader: God of generosity, we find ourselves bitter when faced with your abundant grace.

People: We believe ourselves more deserving than others.

Leader: We nurse our anger and resentment at those you forgive, instead of rejoicing in the abundant love you show.

People: Forgive us when we wish your grace was scarce.

Leader: Forgive the double standards we hold.

People: Help us to know that we are all in need of your grace, and help us rejoice as we all gratefully receive your mercy.

**** Declaration of Forgiveness and the Peace of Christ**

Leader: The grace of God is boundless, poured out freely for all of us.

People: We will receive this gift of forgiveness, and trust God to transform our lives!

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with those gathered here and those watching from home.

People: And, also with you.

Leader: Share the Peace of Christ with one another.

**** Please stand if you are able**

****Response to Forgiveness**

“We Are Forgiven ”

Purple Hymnal 447 (v. 1 twice)

We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: Please join me in the Prayer for Illumination.

All: Testify to us, O God, by the voice of your Spirit. Put your law in our hearts, write your word in our minds, and show your will in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

New Testament Reading

Philippians 1:21-30

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

**** Please stand if you are able**

Sing to the Lord of harvest, sing songs of love and praise.
With joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise.
In God the rolling seasons in steadfast order move.
Sing to the Lord of harvest a joyous song of love.

The clouds break forth with raining, the desserts bloom and spring,
the hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing.
God fills them with abundance and nature's gifts increase.
The year is crowned with goodness, with plenty and with peace.

Bring this sacred altar the gifts God's goodness gave,
the golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save.
Your hearts lay down in offering as at his feet you fall.
With holy lives adore him who gave his life for all.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 16:2-15

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and ate our fill of bread, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. ⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” ⁶So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?” ⁸And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.”

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites: ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’ ” ¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. ¹¹The LORD spoke to Moses, ¹²“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’ ”

¹³ In the evening quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴ When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵ When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?”^[a] For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

Sermon

“God’s Provision”

****Response to Sermon**

“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”

Purple Hymnal 509

All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.

(Refrain)

Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers, seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered in communion’s love have stood.

(Refrain)

All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude.

(Refrain)

Invitation to the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

****Doxology**

“O for a World”

Purple Hymnal 372 (v. 4)

The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn; outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.

**** Please stand if you are able**

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.

****Closing Hymn**

“Great God of Every Blessing”

Purple Hymnal 694

Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,
You are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a star:

(Refrain)

Sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

Your Word is our salvation, the source of endless grace,
in death and life extending your covenant embrace.
In Christ we are one body; each member has a part:

(Refrain)

Your Spirit is our teacher, the light that guides our search,
Transforming broken people into the holy church.
For feeding us with mercy, for wisdom you impart:

(Refrain)

****Charge and Blessing**

Leader: And the people of God say

People: **Alleluia. Amen.**

Postlude

**** Please stand if you are able**

Please join us for the Stewardship Luncheon and presentation in the Narthex immediately following the Worship Service. To all of our visitors, we welcome you and look forward to getting to know you during this time.

For Pastoral Care:

Please contact Pastor Richard at 303-828-8263

A General Note regarding Financial Solicitations:

Please remember that a church leader will never directly solicit you for funds or the transfer of funds. We will only ask for your support of the church through the traditional process of filling out pledge cards and fulfilling that pledge accordingly.

Office Hours:

The Church Office is open Tuesday – Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Peg and Toby normally go to lunch between 12 and 12:30 and are back by 1:30). Friday from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Please remember the deadline for Church Communication Publications is Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. Also, please provide advance notice for any special projects so that time can be accurately allocated and quality and fairness can be provided for all concerned. Thank you!

Church Officers:

Pastor – Richard Aylor
Office Administrator – Peggy Farnham (and Toby)
Choir Director – Hanna Wo
Finance Administrator – Tom Maxey
Treasurer/Trustee Permanent Endowment Fund – Jerry Bucholz

Clerk of Session – Judy Jensen
Elder – Worship – Christi Todd
Elder – Stewardship – Alan Lebsock
Elder – Love in Action – Vicki Kyle
Elder – Christian Education – Jill Green
Elder – Personnel – Ed Powers
Elder – Nominating – Mike Clinton
Elder – Administration & Communications – Shari Gulbrandsen

Deacons:

Donna Bucholz
Monica Rider
Marilyn Sandifer
Dianne Lebsock
Deb Powers
Marjorie Clinton

Margaret Bailey
Valorie Wells
Laura McKnight

A special thank you to Chase Allbritton and Alexander Hiatt for helping with the tech.

*Hymnals are indicated for those that may have them at home.

Blue - "The Presbyterian Hymnal"

Red - "Songs for Praise and Worship"

Purple - "Glory to God"

Yellow - "Hymns for the Family of God"

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Liturgy and reflections are provided by Lectionary Aids for 2022-2023, Year A, Volume 56.1,
PCUSA and Book of Common Worship, Westminster John Knox Press.