Church of the Hills
Presbyterian Church (USA)

"Our Call to Hope Together"

Lamentations 1:1-4; 3:19-26

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Pastor Richard Aylor

October 2, 2022

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 Nancy Church

Opening Music Pastor Richard Aylor

"God Welcomes All" Purple Hymnal 399

"God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends."

Welcome

Moment for Mission – Stewardship Mel Andrew

****Call to Worship** Pastor Richard Aylor

Leader: Our faith may be small, but God's power is great.

People: Our sins may loom large, but God's promise of forgiveness is sure.

Leader: Trusting that God is able to do for us what we could never do for ourselves, let us make our confession.

** Please stand for all hymns if you are able

****Opening Hymn** "We Gather Together" Purple Hymnal 336 (v. 1, 3)

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Invitation to Confession Linda LaGrange

Leader: On this bright and joyful day, we bring our whole selves to you, great God, honestly naming the truth about our lives.

All: Create in us clean hearts, O God, cast out any transgression you find there. Remove fearful features and restore your original design.

Prayer of Confession Linda LaGrange

Leader: God of grace, we confess that the seed of faith within us is small.

People: Hope is often absent.

Leader: Love is frequently inconvenient.

People: Our sin keeps us from responding to you.

Leader: Tend to us in mercy so that we may grow in the ways of faith, hope, and love after the example of Jesus Christ.

All: Equip us to fulfill your will for a world in which all know dignity. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

** Please stand for all hymns if you are able

Declaration of Forgiveness and the Peace of Christ Linda LaGrange

Leader: The grace of God is given to us in Jesus Christ.

People: This is good news!

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.

****Response to Forgiveness** **"**Just As I Am" Purple Hymnal 442 (v. 1)

Just as I am, without one plea but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

Prayer for Illumination Linda LaGrange

Leader: Please join me in the Prayer for Illumination.

All: Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

** Please stand for all hymns if you are able

Old Testament Reading Lamentations 1:1-4; 3:19-26 Linda LaGrange

How lonely sits the city
that once was full of people!
How like a widow she has become,
she that was great among the nations!
She that was a princess among the provinces
has become subject to forced labor.
2 She weeps bitterly in the night,
with tears on her cheeks;
among all her lovers,
she has no one to comfort her;
all her friends have dealt treacherously with her;
they have become her enemies.
3 Judah has gone into exile with suffering
and hard servitude;
she lives now among the nations;
she finds no resting place;
her pursuers have all overtaken her
in the midst of her distress.
4 The roads to Zion mourn,
for no one comes to the festivals;
all her gates are desolate;
her priests groan;
her young girls grieve,
and her lot is bitter.

The thought of my affliction and my homelessness
is wormwood and gall!
20 My soul continually thinks of it
and is bowed down within me.
21 But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:
22 The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
23 they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
24 "The LORD is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in him."
25 The LORD is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.
26 It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.

Ministry of Music "Change My Heart, O God" Purple 695
Sung by the Chancel Choir

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.
You are the Potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

(Repeated in Korean and Spanish)

New Testament Reading 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Pastor Richard Aylor

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

2 To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. **4** Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. **5** I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. **6** For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, **7** for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

8 Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, **9** who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,**10** but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. **11** For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, **12** and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard the deposit I have entrusted to him. **13** Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. **14** Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Sermon "Our Call to Hope Together"

****Response to Sermon** **"**When Peace Like a River" Purple Hymnal 840 (v. 1, 2, 3)

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot,
thou hast taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

(Refrain)

It is well with my soul; it is well; it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
and hath shed his own blood for my soul.

(Refrain)

He lives; O the bliss of this glorious thought.
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

(Refrain)

Invitation to the Offering and Prayer of Dedication Pastor Richard Aylor

****Doxology** "Give Thanks, O Christian People" Purple Hymnal 644 (v. 3)

Give thanks, O Christian people, for all who love the Lord,
who live each day believing in God's eternal Word:
to share Christ's love in living, to witness with each deed,
to use the talents given to plant the gospel seed.

** Please stand for all hymns if you are able

The Eucharist

Invitation to the Lord's Table Pastor Richard Aylor

Prayers of the People, Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements (The elements are gluten-free)

You are invited to come forward. Please remain six feet apart from the person in front of you. Please take the individual cups and return to your seats. You are welcome to take the elements anytime while in your seat. After the service, we ask that you please take your cups and throw them away in the trash can located in the Narthex.

For Reflection and Meditation:

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.
The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

All: Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

****Closing Hymn** "We All Are One In Mission" Purple Hymnal 733 (v. 1, 3)

We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single, great commission compels us from above
to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.

Now let us be united and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word.
We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

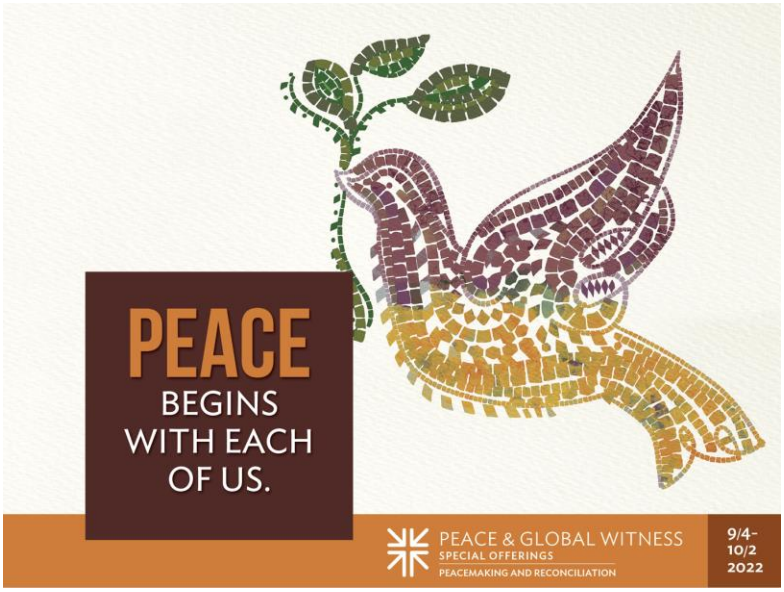
****Charge and Blessing** Pastor Richard Aylor

Leader: And the people of God say

People: Alleluia. Amen.

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

** Please stand for all hymns if you are able



Peace and Global Witness Offering

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the entire church to collaborate in our proclamation of Christ's peace. Congregations keep 25% and mid-councils keep 25% to engage in peacemaking and build ministries of reconciliation in their own context or around the world.

It is with pleasure for the Love in Action Team to announce our decision to send our portion of the Peace and Global Witness offering (25%) to Resilience 1220. Their licensed therapists provide free counseling services to youth ages 12-20 in the mountain communities west of Denver. They raise awareness of the social, emotional, and mental-health issues young people face and to provide the necessary life skills to create wellness and resiliency in their lives.

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.

A special thank you to Tate Allbritton, and Chase Allbritton 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"

Music is reprinted by permission of CCLI #1101861
AV is used by permission of CVLI #303324640
Liturgy and reflections are provided by Lectionary Aids for 2021-2022, Year C, Volume 55.1, PCUSA and Book of Common Worship, Westminster John Knox Press.