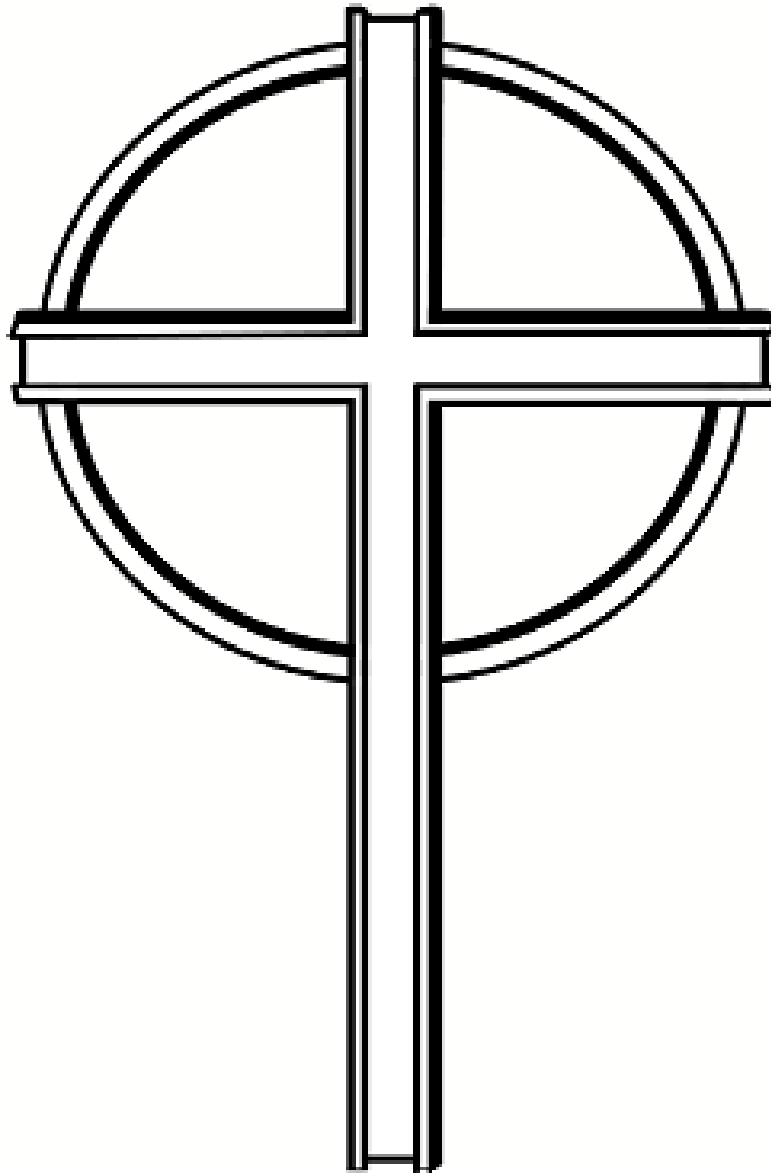


TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23RD, 2020

SAINT GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



We have three podcasts this week. The Extended Worship podcast, which begins here, continues through most of the worship service, to the Charge & Benediction.

Podcast: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1260758/5093471>

There are also podcasts for “Wade in the Water”, and Mona’s special version of “How Firm a Foundation.”

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**SACRED MUSIC**      *Canon in D by Johann Pachelbel*

John Stanley

## **WELCOME**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Ecclesiastes 14:2

Happy are those whose hearts do not condemn them,  
and who have not given up hope.

## **PRAYER**

You are above us, O God,  
You are within.  
You are in all things  
Yet contained by no thing.  
Teach us to seek you in all that has life  
That we may see you as the Light of life.  
Teach us to search for you in our own depths  
That we may find you in every living soul.

- Silence -

Be still and aware of God’s presence within and all around

**SONG #12**      *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

TUNE: ST. DENIO

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:  
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.*

***To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.  
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.  
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.***

***Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!***

## **HEBREW SCRIPTURES**

Exodus 1-2

(from *The Family Story Bible* by Ralph Milton)

“Those Hebrews!” grumped the Pharaoh. “Soon there will be more Hebrews than Egyptians. Why doesn’t somebody do something?”

“Sir,” said one of the helpers. “You are the Pharaoh, the King of Egypt. Could you do something?”

“I guess so,” said the Pharaoh. He talked to Shiphrah and Puah. They were midwives, women who help when mothers are having babies.

“When one of the Hebrew women has a baby boy,” the Pharaoh said, “I want you to kill it.”

Shiphrah and Puah could hardly believe that someone would ask for such a terrible thing. So they made a plan.

“Let’s tell the Pharaoh how strong the Hebrew women are,” said Puah. “Let’s say they don’t need us to help the babies be born.”

“Their babies are born before we get there,” Shiphrah told the Pharaoh.

This was a very brave thing for the two midwives to do. If Pharaoh had found out, he might have killed them. But the Pharaoh believed what Shiphrah and Puah said.

So the Pharaoh tried something else. He gave an order: “When a baby boy is born, throw it in the river and drown it.” The Pharaoh sent his soldiers to look in all the houses to make sure all the baby boys were drowned.

The Hebrew people tried everything to keep their babies away from Pharaoh’s soldiers. But usually the soldiers found the babies anyway.

When a woman named Jochebed gave birth to a baby boy, she and her husband Amram didn’t know what to do. They kept the baby hidden for a while. But as the baby grew it was noisy sometimes. They knew the soldiers would find the baby and kill it.

One day Jochebed and the baby's older sister, Miriam, had an idea. They made a special basket for the baby. They fixed the basket so it would float on water.

Then Jochebed and Miriam took the basket to the edge of the river. They put the basket in the water among the reeds. "The soldiers will never find the baby here," said Jochebed. "Miriam, please stay close by so nothing bad happens to the baby."

Imagine Miriam's surprise when she saw a princess come down to the river. It was the Pharaoh's daughter coming to have a bath.

Now Miriam was really worried. "If the princess sees the basket with the baby, she'll call the soldiers. They will kill my baby brother."

Sure enough, the princess saw the basket. She sent one of her helpers to get it for her.

"Oh, what a beautiful baby," said the princess. The little baby was crying, so the princess picked it up and cuddled it. "I'm going to take care of this baby as if he were my own."

When Miriam heard that, she had another good idea. She ran over to the princess and said, "Would you like me to find someone who can feed the baby milk from her breasts and take very good care of it for you?"

"Why, yes!" said the princess.

So Miriam ran and got Jochebed, her mother.

"Take this baby, and take good care of him," the princess told Jochebed. "I will pay you for your work."

Later in the day, Miriam and her mother were talking about what had happened. Miriam jumped up and down and just squealed, she was so happy.

"Shhh," said her mother. "People will hear you." But Jochebed couldn't keep from laughing. "All I wanted was to keep my baby from being killed by the Pharaoh. Now the Pharaoh's daughter is paying me to look after my own little baby. I think God must have some plans for this child."

When the baby got a little older, the princess took the baby to the palace to live.

"I will raise him as if he is an Egyptian," said the princess. "He will live like a prince in the Pharaoh's palace. And I will call him Moses, which means, 'I drew him out of the water.'"

**THE MESSAGE**      “Look for the Helpers”

Rev. Rebecca Kuiken

**SONG**                      *Wade in the Water*

Podcast: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1260758/5093779>

**SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER**

That you have made us in the image of your own mystery  
Thanks be to you, O God.  
That in the soul of every human being  
There are depths beyond naming  
And heights greater than knowing  
Thanks be to you.

Grant us the grace of inner sight this day  
That we may see you as the Self within all selves  
Grant us the grace of love this day  
That amidst the pain and disfigurement of life  
We may find the treasure that is unlocked by love,  
That amidst the pain and disfigurement of my own life  
We may know the richness that lies buried in the human soul.

- Pray for the coming day -  
- And for the life of the world -  
- (silence) -

Now let us pray as Jesus taught us, saying,

**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.**

**SONG # 463**                      *How Firm A Foundation*

TUNE: ST. DENIO

Bonus Podcast: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1260758/5093799>

***How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!  
What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?***

***"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.***

***"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.***

***"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.***

***"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."***

#### **BENEDICTION**

In the shape of this day  
May you look for unexpected surgings of new life.  
Around you in the people you know and love  
May you look for unopened gifts of promise.

Within you, in the familiar sanctuary of your soul  
May you look for shinings of the everlasting light.  
Before you, around you, within you  
May you find the life-giving mystery of God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

*Prelude in A Minor*

J. S. Bach

Thank you to Mona Dowell, Patty Pace, and Eddie Adams, for providing the music and technical support for our Extended Podcast.

Prayers from *Sounds of the Eternal: a Celtic Psalter*, J. Philip Newell

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please Pray for these Members, Relatives and Friends

Pat Lindsay, Rachel Williams, **Sandra Richbourg**, Charolette Brown, Libby Morton, Dan Grassi, Dick Grassi, **Paula Hagler**, Dave Smith, Aleta Wheeler, Marie Minani, Inez Ruchte, Andrew Scharfe, **Jeane Nagel, Joe Moody, Donna Nichols, Larry Watson, Joyce Vollmer**

- Sallie Taylor's sister, Janet
- Jan Morgan's daughter, Anna
- Betty Fetvedt's sister, Peggy
- Marti Ranney's friend Sherrill
- Janet Wherry's sons David & Stephen, & her sister Ev
- Rachel & Rodney Williams' daughter, Rene
- Pat & Bob Lindsay's granddaughter Rebecca, niece Stephanie & family, & niece Eloise
- Chris Zaineddin's friend Peggy, nieces Colleen, & Sourour Dehnadi, brother Ken, & friend Paul Hutter & family
- Dave & Rita Hart's friend Terry, and neighbors Sarah and Wayne
- Roberta Dibble's friend Margaret Rothman
- Carmen Rosa, along with Tania Valentine & Maurice Kersey
- Friends of Hess & Hart families, Max & Leatha Carey & family, & Allen Lee & Family
- Jo Lourens' father Flip Viviers
- Kimberly & Chad Craven's friend & her family
- Lisa, coworker of Koreen Thomasson, & Lisa's husband Ed
- Sara Monazah's grandmother Zary
- Kathy & Bob Wolinski's daughter, Amy
- Joe Moody's sister Mary Lynn
- Cindy Hemminger & family following her 5 year old cousin Hazel's diagnosis with Leukemia
- Donald and Nancy Ross' friend Terri McIrvine, and her husband and daughters
- Mary Ellen Jackson's cousin Betty Turner
- Chris Maxwell's sister Cecile
- Nicole Goolsby's mother Lyn's friend Bob Albert
- Scott Vollmer's mother, Lois
- Nathan Whittle's aunt Pauline and her son
- **Koreen, Chuck, and Sloane Thomasson following the death of Koreen's mother and long-time Saint Giles member, Peggie Bell**

\*requests in bold have been recently added or are in need of special prayer.