

SERMON

“The Power in His Name”

Rev. Ned Alderman

HYMN

“Marching to Zion”

#733

1. Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord, join in a song with sweet accord
and thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

Refrain

We’re marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We’re marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

2. Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God;
but children of the heavenly King, but children of the heavenly King
may speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad.

Refrain

3. The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets
before we reach the heavenly fields, before we reach the heavenly fields,
or walk the golden streets, or walk the golden streets.

Refrain

4. Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry;
we’re marching through Emmanuel’s ground, we’re marching through Emmanuel’s
ground, to fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

People: The name of your son Jesus is our power.

Lay Reader: Give this world the power to follow the Master’s example; to love as he did, to speak as he spoke, to behave as he behaved, so that this world can become more like the world you envisioned.

People: The name of your son Jesus is our power.

Lay Reader: Give this world the power to act on behalf of your Son, to speak the truth in love, to seek out justice when an injustice arises, to discern your will, and to be the living witness of Jesus Christ.

People: The name of your son Jesus is our power.

Lay Reader: Give this world the power to honor your Son’s name, as we are one family whose successes and achievements reflect that we are sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, and are the joy of the whole body.

People: The name of your son Jesus is our power.

Lay Reader: Give this world the power of your name, that name that is so powerful it can heal the sick, destroy all evil, give freedom to those in chains, and save each one of us.

People: The name of your son Jesus is our power. Thank you, O God, for the name of Jesus. Amen.



Oaklette United Methodist Church

"God's Body in this Community"

"Oaklette United Methodist Church through worship, education, and outreach, seeks to make the gospel of Jesus Christ real, as we minister to all people."

September 29, 2024

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost



BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER

Loving, sustaining God, like the mighty oak, may our branches at Oaklette church embrace those around us in this community. Use us as an instrument to welcome and shelter your people. Deepen our roots so that our branches are strong. Let the Holy Spirit flow like a river through our church, so that we may do your will. In Jesus’ holy name, Amen.

OPENING SCRIPTURE

John 20:19-23 [CEB]

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you.” Then he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven; if you don’t forgive them, they aren’t forgiven.”

PRELUDE

“Adieu to the Piano“

DANA MOODY

FLUTE, SHELENE CASTELLOW

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Lay Reader: Come into the presence of God, singing and praising God.

People: Praise God, our Creator, for God is merciful and understanding.

Lay Reader: Come into the presence of God, seeking wisdom and council.

People: All honor and glory be given to God, our Savior and Redeemer.

OPENING PRAYER (in unison)

Jesus, Brother and Savior, we are grateful to find our way back to you. We have carried out another week’s worth of responsibilities. We have watched another week’s worth of news programs and have listened to another week’s worth of predictions. Sometimes we have slept well; sometimes not. But here we are, before you once again, open to your presence. Revive us with your love and power. Fulfill your kingdom

promises in our lives, in our church, and in our world. In the name of God who created us and the Spirit who breathes new life in us, we pray. Amen.

Scifres, Mary; Beu, B.J., The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021: Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year (pp. 214-215). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.

HYMN

“We Gather Together”

#131

1. 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.
2. Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine!
3. 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!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsively)

Lay Reader: In faithful prayer there is power to save the sick; anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore let us confess our sins and pray for one another so that we may be healed.

People: God, our strength and savior, you know our great transgressions, our hidden faults, our secret sins. With our hands we grasp at power; with our feet we stumble into evil; with our eyes we look out for ourselves. Forgive us, gracious God, and lead us in your holy way of life and love and peace; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lay Reader: Though we wander from the truth, God brings us back and saves our souls from death. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Long, Kim; Long, Kim. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: 2 (pp. 186-187). Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Kindle Edition

Lay Reader: Together may we pray the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN SING

(Ending with “Victory in Jesus #370”)

1. I heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory,
how he gave his life on Calvary to save a wretch like me;
I heard about his groaning, of his precious blood’s atoning,
then I repented of my sins and won the victory.

Refrain

O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!

He sought me and bought me with his redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew him, and all my love is due him;
He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.

Refrain

2. I heard about his healing, of his cleansing power revealing,
how he made the lame to walk again and caused the blind to see;
and then I cried, “Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit,”
and somehow Jesus came and brought to me the victory.

Refrain

3. I heard about a mansion he has built for me in glory,
and I heard about the streets of gold beyond the crystal sea;
about the angels singing and the old redemption story,
and some sweet day I’ll sing up there the song of victory.

Refrain

SCRIPTURE

Mark 9:38-50 [CEB]

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone throwing demons out in your name, and we tried to stop him because he wasn’t following us.” Jesus replied, “Don’t stop him. No one who does powerful acts in my name can quickly turn around and curse me. Whoever isn’t against us is for us. I assure you that whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will certainly be rewarded.

“As for whoever causes these little ones who believe in me to trip and fall into sin, it would be better for them to have a huge stone hung around their necks and to be thrown into the lake. If your hand causes you to fall into sin, chop it off. It’s better for you to enter into life crippled than to go away with two hands into the fire of hell, which can’t be put out. If your foot causes you to fall into sin, chop it off. It’s better for you to enter life lame than to be thrown into hell with two feet. If your eye causes you to fall into sin, tear it out. It’s better for you to enter God’s kingdom with one eye than to be thrown into hell with two. That’s a place where worms don’t die and the fire never goes out. Everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt loses its saltiness, how will it become salty again? Maintain salt among yourselves and keep peace with each other.”

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Another way that we become a flavorful and peaceful community is by sharing the gifts of our lives with the world. We are a compassionate and generous people, so let us give joyfully.

OFFERING PRAYER

Brother Jesus, make us and our gifts salt for the world. Make us and our gifts the source of comfort and relief to the suffering, joy and courage to all. Bless our gifts of presence and treasure, that people may recognize you, Life-Giver, in our lives and in our world. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HYMN

“Guide My Feet”

TFWS #2008

1. Guide my feet while I run this race. Guide my feet while I run this race.
Guide my feet while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain)
2. Hold my hand while I run this race. Hold my hand while I run this race.
Hold my hand while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain)
3. Stand by me while I run this race. Stand by me while I run this race.
Stand by me while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain)
4. I'm your child while I run this race. I'm your child while I run this race.
I'm your child while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain)
5. Search my heart while I run this race. Search my heart while I run this race.
Search my heart while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain)
6. Guide my feet while I run this race. Guide my feet while I run this race.
Guide my feet while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain)

SENDING FORTH

May God, who is our strength, help us celebrate the freedom we have received, and remember his great deeds and grow in trust. May Jesus Christ, in whose name we find power, help us to honor his name with everything we do and say. And may the Holy Spirit, who helps us to pray, motivate in us the practice of prayer, discovering, while praying, that there is indeed power in the name of Jesus.

Long, Kim; Long, Kim. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion. 2 (p. 175). Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Kindle Edition.

GOING FROM VILLAGE TO VILLAGE

POSTLUDE

“Allegro “

DANA MOODY

Today's service is being broadcast on Facebook Live at 11:00 am. You can access the service through the Oaklette Church Group on Facebook. You can also access the sermon through the Oaklette UMC Facebook page. If you are unable to use Facebook Live a link can be sent to you by email after the Facebook Live Worship has been recorded, but we will need your email address to do this. The Facebook Live service will also be downloaded to our website on Monday morning.

The flowers on the altar today are presented to the glory of God.

The Food Basket on the altar is presented to the glory of God.



PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY

Members of the Church

Nursery Care Providers: Debbie & David Rippard

Prayer Partner: Brenda Swoope

Lay Reader – Monica Whitehurst

Audio–Visual Operator – Ericka Litten

Facebook Live Recorder: Bright Tsevi

Greeter: Joanne Rooks

Pastor: Rev. Ned Alderman

Administrative Assistant: Eileen Ballance

Financial Secretary: Edna Bess

Coastal Virginia Dist. Superintendent: Rev. Beth Givens
Resident Bishop, Richmond Area: Bishop Sue Hauptert–Johnson