

Worship Resources ***Finding Rest Among Restless Living***

<https://youtu.be/tiXbruUcfXk>

24th Sunday of Pentecost, Year A,

15th November, 2020

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 CEV / Jeremiah 31:15-17, 23-25 NRSV

Prelude ***Brighten The Corner Where You Are,***

music by Charles H. Gabriel,

played by church musician Annie Center

<https://youtu.be/wxUcvfagDo0>

Intro / Call to Worship

I'm glad to welcome you to online worship with Olympic View Community Church. We seek to welcome all of God's children to join us in bearing witness to the radically transforming power of God's love.

When we gather together at Olympic View, we like to start our service sharing greetings and the peace and shalom of Christ with each other. As we listen to this beautiful song by our good friend Mike Stern called Shadows, let's think of those we reach out to offer support in these difficult times or those we would like to offer peace to.,

Reflection video - *Shadow*

Mike Stern, used with permission

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLSGxKw23dc>

Invocation

God of love and justice, we gather together to worship you: to offer our thanks and praise and to proclaim your goodness and mercy.

Meet us here. Breathe your Word into our souls; engrave your covenant of love upon our hearts. Teach us faithfulness and compassion so that our lives may reflect your love and justice to the world. **Amen.**

We light a candle today to represent the Spirit burning within us, and among us, guiding our time together. (light candle) Amen.

In our reading from the Psalms this week, the Psalmist seeks refuge in the safety of God, As we listen to these words, let's reflect on how and where we seek refuge from trials in our own lives.

Psalm of the Day - Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 CEV

I come to you, Lord, for protection. Don't let me be ashamed. Do as you have promised and rescue me.

Listen to my prayer and hurry to save me. Be my mighty rock and the fortress where I am safe.

You, Lord God, are my mighty rock and my fortress. Lead me and guide me, so that your name will be honored.

Protect me from hidden traps and keep me safe.

You are faithful, and I trust you because you rescued me.

My life is in your hands. Save me from enemies who hunt me down.

Smile on me, your servant. Have pity and rescue me.

Scripture Video Psalm 31:1-5,15-16

A Prayer for Protection

Lectionary bible reading

<https://youtu.be/A4JkKd4vyeQ>

A Time of Prayer

Today we come together as a community to share together our joys and concerns, and lift them to God in prayer. If you would like to share a specific request to be included in our communal prayer time, please leave a comment in the video below, or email myself at: vicarglenn@gmail.com, and I'll make sure to include that request in next week's service, as well as send a prayer chain email, if you would like.

Joys and Concerns

This morning we remember those who struggle with illness, with loneliness and grief, and the isolation of these times. May they receive comfort and strength,

We bring the divisiveness and anger that is so prevalent to our God. May God work in the hearts of all to lead us to compassion and understanding and true shalom.

Those who struggle with food and shelter insufficiency are always in our minds. May we find ways to be God's hands and feet to give comfort and help to those in need.

Let's bring these concerns and others in our lives to God together in prayer.

Pastoral Prayer

People of God, as we come to prayer

let us remember that we do not have to twist the arm of a reluctant God to seek good things for this world, nor find ways to persuade a distant God to come near and listen to us.

Let us remember that as we pray we kneel alongside Jesus Christ, in the presence of God, with the help of the Spirit.

So let us bring to mind now those people who are in need of our prayers: those who are ill, or anxious; those who are lonely or sad; those who are despairing or defeated; those who are hungry or homeless; those whose relationships are breaking apart; those who are bullied or abused; those who cannot find work; and those who are overworked. In silence now, let us make our own specific prayers for those on our hearts and minds today.

(silence)

In the presence of God, alongside Jesus Christ, with help from the Spirit may we go into this week to live out our prayers through our lives.

Amen.

In our scripture lesson this morning, we are reminded that we follow a God that offers rest to those who are weary and who struggle. As we listen to these words from Jeremiah, let's think how we seek rest, and how we offer rest and comfort to others who are weary.

Scripture of the Day Jeremiah 31:15-17, 23-25 NRSV

Thus says the Lord: A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more.

Thus says the Lord: Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears; for there is a reward for your work, says the Lord: they shall come back from the land of the enemy;

there is hope for your future, says the Lord: your children shall come back to their own country.

Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Once more they shall use these words in the land of Judah and in its towns when I restore their fortunes: “The Lord bless you, O abode of righteousness, O holy hill!”

And Judah and all its towns shall live there together, and the farmers and those who wander with their flocks.

I will satisfy the weary, and all who are faint I will replenish.

Message – Finding Rest Among Restless Living

Paul Munday, Guest Preacher

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0grmx8Oqmg>

Call to Serve.

As we continue to seek to be a place of compassion and support to our community, we ask that you give prayerful consideration as to how you may support our efforts. If you would like to make a donation, gifts can still be mailed to our church office, or online donations can be made through the link in the video description. Thanks again for all your support, and may we continue to work together to keep being a place of ministry that seeks to promote the growth of God's shalom around us. This morning, as Annie shares the following song, let's give some thought as to how we can find rest in our own lives this week, as well as seek to offer rest to others who are weary.

A Time for Reflection

Reflection on the Word [video] *God Will Take Care Of You,*

music by W. Stillman Martin,

played by church musician Annie Center

<https://youtu.be/qJjbGX-P8gk>

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Generous God,

through your Son, Jesus Christ, you have shown us what it means to love.
And you call us to follow Your example—to love our neighbours as we love ourselves.

Continue to write your law of love on our hearts. Give us an unwavering passion for justice, and a tenacious faith that will not rest until the hungry are fed, the oppressed find relief, and the outsider finds a welcome. **Amen.**

Blessing/Assurance

Our help comes from God, the Creator of heaven and earth. God will not let you stumble or fall; the One who watches over you never tires and never sleeps.

So go from here in peace and confidence, seeking rest in the presence of our Creator for you never go alone. Amen,

As we extinguish this candle, carry its divine spark into your lives this week, sharing God's love and light with all you encounter. Amen.

Postlude *We Are So Blessed,*

music by Greg Nelson, Gloria and William J. Gaither
performed by church musician Annie Center,
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<https://youtu.be/x-FYPv9Epg>