

Gettysburg United Methodist Church

August 5, 2020

Psalm 148

- 1 Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!
- 2 Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his host!
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars!
- 4 Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!
- 5 Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were
created.
- 6 He established them forever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be
passed.
- 7 Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,
- 8 fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command!
- 9 Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!
- 10 Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!
- 12 Young men and women alike,
old and young together!
- 13 Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.
- 14 He has raised up a horn for his people,

*praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to
him.*

Praise the Lord!



Meditation

Read Psalm 19

Where do you see God? Some people see God in the glory of creation. They are inspired by a beautiful sunset or by the wonders of nature. Some people see God in the faces of other human beings. Some see him in the words of inspired Scripture, and some in prayer or in the majesty and power of worship. Some see him in the simple and ordinary things of life.

Where do you see God? In reality God is everywhere, even if we don't see or acknowledge his presence. In Psalm 139:7-10 we read,

⁷Where can I go from your spirit?

Or where can I flee from your presence?

⁸If I ascend to heaven, you are there;

if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

⁹If I take the wings of the morning

and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

¹⁰even there your hand shall lead me,

and your right hand shall hold me fast.

(NRSV)

(Continued on page 2)

Ask and it will be given.

(Continued from page 1)

If God is everywhere, why don't we always have a sense of his presence?

Often we don't see God because we're not looking for him. Our minds are on other things, or we focus on our own needs and our own feelings, or we don't expect God's presence, or we're not accustomed to seeing him in everyday life.

Where do you see God? He is there in every moment of our lives. If we are willing to see, the Holy Spirit will open our eyes to his presence. We'll begin to ask questions such as "Lord, where are you in this situation?" "What's your purpose for me?" "What's your purpose for others?" "What can I do to show your love and your light?" He may simply reassure us and remind us of his love and providence, and so we learn to thank him and praise him in all things. But he may reveal a deeper purpose for us.

To understand God's intent we seek to learn the language of his heart. God speaks to us in a variety of ways. He spoke to Moses through the burning bush (Ex. 3). He spoke to Samuel through a voice in the night (1 Sam. 3). He spoke to King David through the voice of another person (2 Sam. 24:11-19). God communicates with each of us in different ways at different times. Through scripture and prayer, through worship and praise, through the experiences of others, and sometimes through trial and error we learn to understand God's voice in a variety of circumstances. We become especially sensitive to his gentle nudge in our hearts.

We know God's presence; we listen for his voice; God calls us to respond. We may respond to his love and reassurance with thanksgiving and praise. We may respond with questions. We may respond with actions and words that enable us to share his love with others.

Where do you see God? We spend a lifetime learning to experience his presence, to hear his voice, and to respond in love. May God grant us the grace of his Holy Spirit as he opens our eyes to see him

more clearly every day. Where do other people see God? Maybe they see him in you!

Pastor Rick



Prayer

Open our eyes, Lord, that we may see your presence at all times and in all places. Open our ears, that we may hear your voice of comfort and challenge. Open our hearts, that we may love others as you have loved us.

We pray for our nation and our world. Grant us wisdom and faith to deal with the coronavirus pandemic. Give us a deep sense of justice as we work for true freedom for everyone in our land. Meet the needs of all who need your loving and healing presence.

We pray especially for our schools and colleges as they make plans for the fall. We pray for teachers and aides, janitors and administrators, bus drivers and cafeteria workers, and especially for students. Keep them in your protection and grace.

Enable us to walk daily in the love and power of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Seek and you will find.

Crisis Hotlines and Helplines

During these trying times, it's good to be aware of some of the positive resources available in our community. Many people are under extraordinary stress because of the current situation. Please feel free to share this information with others as you feel appropriate.

CONTACT Helpline: (800) 932-4616

Wellspan Behavioral Health Helpline (Philhaven):
(800) 932-0359

TrueNorth Crisis Line: (866) 325-0339

Substance Abuse Hotline: (800) 662-4357

Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233

Adams-Hanover Crisis Information Referral Hotline:
(717) 632-4900

Mission Central Needs

COVID-19 has brought a lot of changes to Mission Central. One of these key changes impacting School and Activity Kits is these items can no longer be shared. Now children need their own items to avoid sharing school supplies which, unfortunately, means we need more supplies than ever before! Rather than list one item per week, Mission Central has supplied a list of various donations that are needed:

These include:

- Scissors
- Paper (8.5 x 11 or composition book)
- Pencil sharpener
- Ruler
- Pencils
- Ink Pens
- Eraser
- Crayons

You can purchase them and bring them to the church on Sunday morning or during the week. Thank you!

Weekly Prayer Concerns

Every week a list of recent prayer concerns will be included with this mailing. To add someone to the list, please call the church office.

This week's list (as of 7/28/2020) is:

Genny Reaver—recovering at home.
Barbara Evans—recovering at home
Rodney Truscott

Members in Assisted Living / Skilled Care Homes:

Edith Bulman (SpiriTust Lutheran, York)
Kermit Carlson (Paramount, Fayetteville)
Shirley Hammond (Morning Glory, Littlestown)
Missy Legay (Moul Home, York)
Bob Reed (Lorien, Mt Airy, MD)
Peggy Reynolds (Quincy-cottage), Waynesboro)
Gloria Swingler (Country Meadows-apartment), Mechanicsburg

Members with Limited Mobility:

Butch Carter
Betty Cook
Joyce Dye
Pearl Keckler
Raymond Koenig
Chuck Lutz
Ruth Anna Polley
Wilma Schaible
Betty Schulteis
June Spencer
Virginia White

Worship Services

Our regular Sunday Worship Services continue at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary, following guidelines that are available on our website.

Sunday worship video services are uploaded to our GUMC Facebook page every week in time for Sunday morning.

Sunday School has not yet reopened.

HYMN

Trust and Obey

John H. Sammis, Daniel B. Towner

1 When we walk with the Lord
in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will,
he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain:

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

2 Not a burden we bear,
not a sorrow we share,
but our toil he doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss,
not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey. [Refrain]

3 But we never can prove
the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows,
for the joy he bestows,
are for them who will trust and obey. [Refrain]

4 Then in fellowship sweet
we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do,
where he sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey. [Refrain]

John Sammis was born in Brooklyn in 1846, and died in Los Angeles in 1919. He became a successful businessman in Indiana, where his volunteer work with the YMCA led him into the ordained ministry. He served several Presbyterian churches in the Midwest. Daniel Towner was born in Rome, PA, in 1850 and died in Missouri in 1919. He studied with several eminent musicians, and served in the music ministry of a number of Methodist Episcopal churches. He worked with Dwight Moody the evangelist, and eventually became head of the music department of Moody Bible Institute.

Towner was leading a testimony meeting with Moody when he heard a young man say, "I am not quite sure—but I am going to trust, and I am going to obey." He sent the words with their story to Sammis, who was inspired to write the hymn, *Trust and Obey*, beginning with the chorus. Towner then composed the tune. The hymn expresses in a simple yet powerful way the blessings of trusting and obeying the Lord. It may be found as number 467 in *The United Methodist Hymnal*.

We greatly appreciate your continued faithful donations to GUMC during this time of change and crisis. Your faithfulness has enabled us to continue to pay all of our expenses, and we are very grateful for your continued generosity.

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