

Gettysburg United Methodist Church

June 10, 2020

Psalm 146

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

*2 I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life
long.*

*3 Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.*

*4 When their breath departs, they return to
the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.*

*5 Happy are those whose help is the God of
Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God,*

*6 who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;*

who keeps faith forever;

*7 who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.*

The Lord sets the prisoners free;

8 the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

*The Lord lifts up those who are bowed
down;
the Lord loves the righteous.*

*9 The Lord watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to
ruin.*

*10 The Lord will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.*

Praise the Lord!

Worship Services Will Resume June 14

Our regular Sunday Worship Services will resume this Sunday (June 14) at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. In order to ensure the safety of all who attend, special guidelines will have to be followed. The guidelines are included as a separate sheet in this mailing. Each person and family should prayerfully make their own decision about attending at this time. We support and respect whatever choice you make.

Our modified online worship services will continue to be available on Facebook every Sunday. The sermon for the online service will be the same as the sermon that will be preached in the Sunday morning Sanctuary service.

Sunday School is not yet reopening.

Meditation

Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-14.

Even though I grew up in Shippensburg, I don't go back there very often. Every time I do return, however, something has changed. There's always something different, there's always something new. There is now a Sheetz where a classmate of mine once lived. The building where I attended middle school has been torn down and replaced with a senior living complex. The railroad tracks through the town square are gone. The university seems bigger than ever. The list can go on, and on, and on.

Life is full of changes. In this passage from Ecclesiastes, we're reminded that things never stay the same. There's a time for everything under heaven; as new things come the old ones pass away.

Change is not always welcome. Sometimes we don't like it. We would rather keep things the way they

(Continued on page 2)

There is a time for everything,

(Continued from page 1)

were. We prefer the inertia of the past to the fresh challenges of the future. Change can cause grief (whether we realize it or not), and grief brings emotional responses (denial, guilt, bargaining, and depression, for example). Change is hard work.

I believe God helps us to lean into change if we are willing trust him and to grow as persons.

Hold fast to the things that remain constant. God's love for us will never change. He will always be our Good Shepherd; he will always lead us safely through the dark valley. God's purpose does not change—Ecclesiastes reminds us that he's in charge. It may not always seem that way, but when we look back from the future we will often understand his plan and purpose.

Look for the positive side of change. When I was in high school, for example, I used a manual typewriter. Now I use a computer and word processing software—what a transformation! I liked my old typewriter, but I would much rather use a computer. Give new things a chance—don't let your initial reaction become your final judgment without taking plenty of time to think and pray. The only way the world improves is through change.

Maintain strong relationships with family and friends. Relationships can be a strong safety net when everything else is uncertain. Remember that there are people who care about you and will be there for you. Above all, keep your relationship with God strong, for he is your rock and your fortress.

Take time for yourself. Change is stressful. Spend time in private with scripture or in prayer. Go to a favorite spot where you can find relaxing peace and quiet. Turn off the constant barrage of TV news and watch something uplifting, or at least diverting. Listen to your favorite music. Go for a walk and praise God for a beautiful day.

We live in a time of significant change. As we've learned to deal with COVID-19, we've had to modify our outlook and change our behavior. We're more cautious around other people. We're learning

(sometimes reluctantly) to wear masks and practice social distancing. Many families have had to learn to live with less income, or even no income at all.

Perhaps even more profound are the changes underway in our society. We work and pray for positive change that will end racism, oppression, inequality, and violence. Sometimes change happens to us; sometimes we are the only ones who can make change happen.

“There is a time for everything, and season for every activity under heaven.” (Eccl. 3:1) In every time and every season there is change. May God grant us grace to keep the best of the past, hope to embrace the new things he is doing, and faith to trust everything into his care.

—Pastor Rick,



Prayer

Lord God, we trust you in all things. Grant us grace to welcome the new things you are doing among us. Keep us always faithful in our love for you, and always generous in our love for others.

Equip us to work for peace with justice in our world, and teach us to love others as you have loved us. Guide us with your wisdom and fill us anew with you Holy Spirit, that we may give you glory and praise in all things; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

and a season for every activity under heaven.

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

Introducing GUMC's New On-Line E-giving Service

We are excited to announce that we have added a significant easy-to-use on-line giving tool. The E-giving tool is accessible through a link from our webpage at www.gettysburg.org or can be downloaded as an app for your smart phone. It offers you a quick and secure way to offer your stewardship gifts to a variety of GUMC ministry programs (General Fund, Mission Can, Building Fund, Memorial) either on a one-time or recurring basis. You can donate by using your credit card, checking account or savings account. You can access the service from your home computer, or you can download the e-giving app to your smart phone (more info on our website). This service may be especially useful while we are "staying at home" during the Covid-19 crisis, saving you postage and using your paper checks.

If you have any questions concerning our new E-giving program, feel free to contact Cindy Tousiant, Church Treasurer or Bob Berkey, Chair of the Finance Committee.

Roof Update

We are very thankful that our roof repairs should be finished by Fri., June 12. We are deeply grateful to everyone whose donations made this work possible.

Card Shower

We would like to have a card shower for one of our former members who is recovering from a broken hip. Her address at rehab is:

Trudy Smith
UVA Encompass Health
515 Ray C Hunt Drive
Charlottesville, VA. 22903

Trudy will be in rehab until about June 16th if all goes well.

Her home address is:
300 Waverly Place
Apt 1
Louisa, VA 23093-4166

Better Together
One in Ministry to
All the World

Thank You

Gettysburg United Methodist Church

For Giving 100% for Shares of Ministry in 2019
By this support you enable the Denomination and the Susquehanna Conference to present the Gospel and minister to the needs of people in the name of Jesus Christ.

Jeremiah J. Park
Bishop
Jeremiah J. Park

Mark Knecht
Conference Treasurer/Benefits Officer
Mark Knecht

United Methodists in Northeastern and Central Pennsylvania making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world

HYMN

As the Deer

Martin Nystrom

Verse 1

As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longeth after Thee;
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee.

Chorus

You alone are my strength my shield,
To You alone may my spirit yield;
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee

Verse 2

You're my friend and You are my brother
Even though You are a King;

I love You more than any other
So much more than anything.

Verse 3

I want You more than gold or silver,
Only You can satisfy;
You alone are the real joygiver
And the apple of my eye.

CCLI Song # 1431

Martin Nystrom; © 1984 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

CCLI License # 2348898

On his website, Martin Nystrom says this about himself:

"I am a married father of two sons and live in the Seattle area. My degree is in music education and I have taught music in a wide variety of settings. I have written over 120 songs that have been released by publishers of Christian praise and worship music. My best known song is the worship chorus, 'As the Deer.'" He has also written two children's books.

One summer when Nystrom was teaching school, he decided to attend the summer session of Christ for the Nations Institute in Dallas, TX. Since he was going through dry spell spiritually, his roommate challenged him to go on a fast. On the 19th day of fast, as he was playing around with chord progressions at the piano, he saw a Bible opened to Ps. 42:1. At once he began to sing the words and tune of *As the Deer*, and completed the song within minutes. The song is a hymn of longing for God's presence, set to a haunting melody that inspires a sense of God's peace and love. It may be found as No. 2025 in *The Faith We Sing*.

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.

Sunday worship video services are uploaded to our GUMC Facebook page every week. You don't have to be a member of Facebook to view them. If you have any trouble watching our services, feel free to call Larry Speer at 717 642-6123 (H) or 717 387-3577 (M).

Gettysburg United Methodist Church
30 West High Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325
www.gettysburgumc.org

717 334-3032
gettysburgumc@gmail.com