



Havenwood Church

Presbyterian Church (USA)

November 3, 2024



The Pharisees Question Jesus, James Tissot c.1896

The Service of the Lord's Day

Order of Worship

**Please stand if you are able.
Congregation to recite bolded passages.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jenn DiFrancesco

PRELUDE

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”
by Tracey Craig McKibben

Valerie Adelung

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sharon Huber-Plano

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob and Rachel and Leah,
Whose hope is in the LORD their God,
Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;
Who keeps faith forever;
Who executes justice for the oppressed;
Who gives food to the hungry.
The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD loves the righteous.

*HYMN # 49

“The God of Abraham Praise”

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Sharon Huber-Plano

In every season, God calls us to love and to serve, yet we often fall short, distracted by fear and divided loyalties. Let us come before God with honesty and humility, confessing our need for grace and guidance, trusting that God's mercy is ever-present.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sharon Huber-Plano

Again and again, you call us
to care for widows and orphans,
to advocate for those in prison,
to welcome the strangers.

**O God, we hear your call,
but all around us we hear the cry
that there is not enough for all, and that some are undeserving.**

Again and again, you call us
to love you with our whole heart, understanding, and strength;
such love demands that we seek justice
for those who are oppressed, poor, and forgotten.

**O God, we hear your call,
But all around us are competing calls
of worldly loyalties, political parties, and public acclaim.**

Again and again, you urge us to seek you first.
We long to trust the path of love for you and our neighbors as ourselves.
**Yet we fear that our “land of milk and honey”
Has become a land of moral famine and economic hardship,
And we wonder at times if you have abandoned us.**

Again and again, you urge us not to lean on our own understanding
but in all our ways to acknowledge you, **and yet
we are often distracted by the clamor of fear dressed up as reason.**

As we prepare our hearts and minds in these days,
you remind us to follow you
so that it may go well for us, our neighbors, our nation, and our world.
**Yet too often we forget to observe
your statutes of compassion and your ordinances of justice.**

(Silence is kept)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jenn DiFrancesco

Sisters and brothers, God is at work in us and with us! We know that you are the one who lifts up those who are bowed down. We know that you promise to uphold us, and yet,

again and again, we get caught up in the ways of those who put their trust in politicians, power-brokers and pundits instead of the Ruler of Peace.

Hear the word of God for this season and all seasons: “Do not be afraid! I will never leave you or forsake you.” Know that our God who began a good work in us is able to complete it. As we open ourselves to the Spirit of God, may we see more fully the wonder of God already at work in us. **Amen.**

*GLORIA PATRI # 581

*Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen, Amen.*

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Jenn DiFrancesco

May the Peace of Christ be with you.
and also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Sharon Huber-Plano

Gracious God, open our hearts and minds by the power of Your Holy Spirit. As we hear Your word, may Your commandments take root within us, guiding us to love You fully and live faithfully. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Sharon Huber-Plano

These are the commands, decrees and laws the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the Lord your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, promised you.

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Bread of the World”

Chancel Choir

by Mark Burrows and Mary McDonald

*Bread of the world in mercy broken, wine of the soul in mercy shed,
by whom the words of life were spoken, and in whose death our sins are dead:
look on the heart by sorrow broken; look on the tears by sinners shed:
so may your feast become the token that by your grace our souls are fed
Circle of hope, remain unbroken. Circle of love, reach out and spread.
Then all the world will share the glory,
Share in God's blessings, share, and be fed.*

SCRIPTURE

Mark 12:28-34

Jenn DiFrancesco

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

“The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

“Well said, teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Jenn DiFrancesco

*HYMN # 316

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Jenn DiFrancesco

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God. We gather today, not only with those present but with all the saints who have gone before us—those whose love shaped our lives, whose faith guided us, and whose hands labored for justice and peace. This table extends beyond time and place, joining us with the whole communion of saints.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Jenn DiFrancesco

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal God, holy and mighty, it is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, for you are the Creator of heaven and earth. In your love, you formed us in your image and called us to be your people. Even when we turned from you, your love remained steadfast. You sent prophets to call us back to your ways, and in the fullness of time, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to redeem and save us.

Therefore, we join our voices with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ, who came to be the light of the world, showing us your way of love and truth. Through his life, death, and resurrection, you broke the power of sin and death and opened the way to eternal life.

We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us, who now rest from their labors and rejoice in your eternal presence. Today, we remember especially those who have passed in the last year, and we name them before you now in silence or aloud... [Pause for naming the saints]. We honor their lives, and we trust in your promise of resurrection for them and for us.

As we gather at this table, we recall your great love for us, and we celebrate the mystery of faith:

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that the bread we break and the cup we share may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, unite us with all the saints of every time and place, that we may be one in Christ and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast with all the saints in the joy of your eternal realm.

And now, with the confidence of the children of God,
we pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Jenn DiFrancesco

Our communion table offers grape juice and gluten-free wafers to welcome all.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jenn DiFrancesco

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you gave yourself to us. As we have been nourished at your table, may we go forth, strengthened by your Spirit, to be your hands and feet in the world. Help us to live as witnesses of your love, proclaiming your justice, peace, and grace. Unite us with all your saints, past and present, that together we may serve you with joy. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Jenn DiFrancesco

“Can one be passionate about the just, the ideal, the sublime, and the holy, and yet commit to no labor in its cause? I don’t think so.” Mary Oliver’s words beckon us to align our labor with our passion for the just and the holy. We gather our offerings of actions and resources, that it may be so.

Besides donating by placing your donation in the plates by the doors, you may also donate online or mail a check to the church. More information can be found at the back of the bulletin.

OFFERTORY

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”
by Todd Beaney

Valerie Adelung

*DOXOLOGY #606

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jenn DiFrancesco

Gracious God, we bring our gifts before you, not out of obligation, but in joy and gratitude for all you have done. Bless these offerings and the work of our hands, that they may be used to build up your kingdom of love, justice, and peace. In all we do, may we seek to honor you, loving our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

*HYMN # 326

“For All the Saints”

*BENEDICTION

Jenn DiFrancesco

POSTLUDE

“For All the Saints” by Mark Hayes

Valerie Adelung

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to our liturgist: Sharon Huber-Plano

Thank you to our ushers: Susan Bond, Wende Smith

HAVENWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Jenn DiFrancesco, Supply Pastor

The Rev. Cathy Bashore, Parish Associate

Susan Riegger, Preschool Director

Valerie Adelung, Music Director

Jake Miller, Worship Technology Coordinator

Julia Wells, Administrator

Lloyd Martin, Facilities Manager

SESSION

Sharon Huber-Plano – Clerk of Session

Judi Forrester – Personnel Committee

Judy Binkley – Worship Committee

Wende Smith – Preschool Committee

Chip Hurley – Stewardship Committee

Donna Marshall – Scouts Liaison

DEACONS

Susan Bond

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Judy Yeager



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49 The God of Abraham Praise



1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a-bove,
 2 Your spir-it still flows free, high surg-ing where it will.
 3 Your good-ly land we seek, with peace and plen-ty blest,
 4 You have e-ter-nal life im-plant-ed in the soul;



the An-cient of E-ter-nal Days, the God of love!
 In proph-et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
 a land of sa-cred lib-er-ty and Sab-bath rest.
 your love shall be our strength and stay, while a-ges roll.



The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed,
 Es-tab-lished is your law, and change-less it shall stand,
 There milk and hon-ey flow, and oil and wine a-bound,
 We praise you, liv-ing God! We praise your ho-ly name:

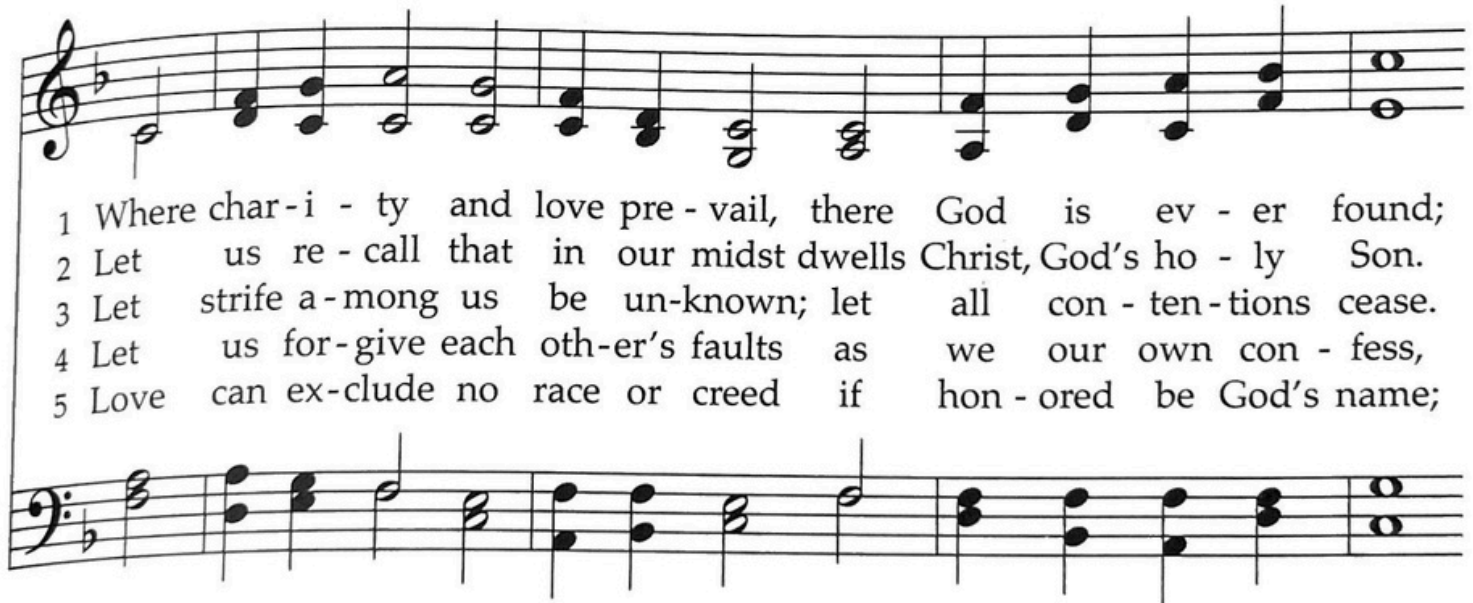


we bow be-fore your ho-ly name, for-ev-er blest.
 deep writ up-on the hu-man heart by your strong hand.
 and trees of life for-ev-er grow with mer-cy crowned.
 the first, the last, be-yond all thought, and still the same!

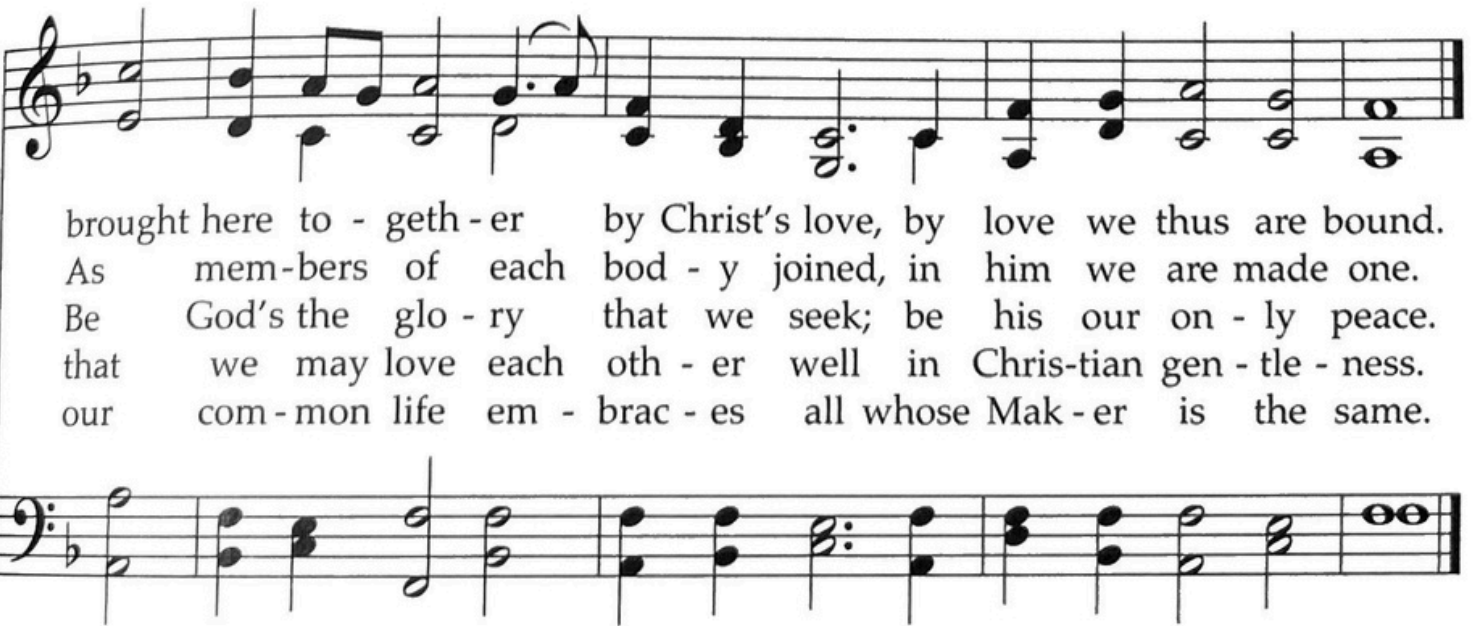


Shaped by its traditional Jewish tune, this selection of English stanzas conveys the essence of the *Yigdal*, a canticle based on a medieval Hebrew statement of faith about the nature of God and often used in synagogue worship, alternately chanted by cantor and congregation.

Where Charity and Love Prevail 316



1 Where char-i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son.
3 Let strife a - mong us be un-known; let all con - ten-tions cease.
4 Let us for-give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,
5 Love can ex-clude no race or creed if hon - ored be God's name;



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
As mem-bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.
our com - mon life em - brac - es all whose Mak - er is the same.

This English paraphrase is based on a longer Latin hymn traditionally associated with the footwashing ritual on Maundy Thursday, an enactment of Christ's "new commandment" that we should love one another (John 13:34). For a chant setting of the first line of the hymn see no. 205.

TEXT: Latin, 8th cent.; trans. Omer Westendorf, 1960, alt.

MUSIC: Lucius Chapin, 1812

Text © 1960, ren. 1988 World Library Publications

TWENTY-FOURTH
CM

For All the Saints



1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who
 2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might;
 3 O blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine!
 4 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long,
 5 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through



thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
 thou, Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight;
 We fee - bly strug - gle; they in glo - ry shine; yet
 steals on the ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, and
 gates of pearl streams in the count - less host,



name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
 thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
 all are one in thee, for all are thine.
 hearts are brave a - gain, and arms are strong.
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The broad and sweeping tune with which this hymn is so closely identified was created to be sung during a reverent but dramatic procession at the beginning of an All Saints' Day service, an enacted representation of the enduring "fellowship divine" celebrated by this text.