

# Fairmont Presbyterian Church Kettering, Ohio March 13, 2022

#### FAIRMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Service for the Worship of God

# Fairmont Presbyterian Church nurtures and guides people to live inspired lives.

March 13, 2022 10:30am 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent

**Welcome and Announcements** 

Rev. Brian Maguire

Prelude Jesus, Lover of My Soul Flor Peeters

Call to Worship (Psalm 85)

Leader: I will listen to what you, Lord God, are saying, for you are speaking peace to your faith-

ful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

People: Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may

dwell in our land.

Leader: Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

People: Truth shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from

heaven.

Leader: Lord, you will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

**Hymn #653** Give Thanks to God Who Hears Our Cries Morning Song (verses 1, 3, 6)

1 Give thanks to God who hears our cries and saves in troubled days with wondrous works to humankind that call for highest praise.

Let all who know God's saving love sing grateful songs always.

3 If you have ever lived inside the prison of your gloom and cried to God, who broke your bonds and raised you from your tomb, then praise the One who sets you free, who makes dry places bloom.

6 So praise the One whose love is great, whose kindness is well-known.
Consider well the healing hand and help you have been shown, and tell the world what God has done.
Praise God and God alone!

## Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Rev. Kelley Shin

God of all mercy, you are always ready to forgive and embrace us, yet we seldom extend that compassion to each other. We fear those who are not like us and our jealousy blinds us to our unity as your children. We do not trust and so we presume to take life into our own hands. Forgive us our ignorance and fear. Forgive us our sin. Help us to reach out to stranger and siblings who we hold apart. Help us to express your love in our care for each other...(time for silent prayer)...Amen.

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

\*Congregational Response #576

Lord, Have Mercy

Singapura

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us.

## Passing of Christ's Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

#### Time with Our Children

**Anthem** Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Restoration

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore; Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power. I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms. In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms. Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome; God's free bounty glorify, true belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh. Come, ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall; if you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all. Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream; all the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him.

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

Leader: Blessed are you Eternal One our God, sovereign of the world.

People: In ancient days you spoke and created your people.

Leader: Today let your Word and words come alive in us.

People: So that we can live into your story with meaning, purpose, and hope.

Leader: We ask this in the name of Jesus, our teacher. Amen.

Scripture Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. <sup>2</sup>This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. <sup>3</sup>Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. <sup>4</sup>But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

<sup>12</sup>Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. <sup>13</sup>And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered,

"Here I am." <sup>14</sup>So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, <sup>15</sup>and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" <sup>16</sup>"I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." <sup>17</sup>The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan." So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. <sup>16</sup>They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. <sup>19</sup>They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. <sup>20</sup>Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." <sup>21</sup>But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." <sup>22</sup>Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" —that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father.

<sup>22</sup>So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; <sup>24</sup>and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. <sup>25</sup>Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. <sup>26</sup>Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? <sup>27</sup>Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. <sup>26</sup>When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Leader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

**Sermon** All In The Family Rev. Brian Maguire

Hymn #754 Help Us Accept Each Other Baronita

1 Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.

2 Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

3 Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance until we know by heart the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.

4 Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for justice and for bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on: renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us; make us one!

#### Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### Pastoral Prayer (concluding with 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 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.

Doxology

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

#### **Invitation of Discipleship**

Anthem A Festival of Psalms by John Ness Beck

I will lift up mine eyes to the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. I will lift up mine eyes to the hills, from whence cometh help. My help cometh from the Lord who made heaven and earth. My help cometh from the Lord. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: He that keepeth thee will not Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall nither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord shall shade thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from evil: He shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore. I will lift up mine eyes to the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord.

#### \*Prayer of Commitment

#### Hymn #758

Why Do Nations Rage Together

Ebenezer

1 Why do nations rage together; why in vain do they conspire? Rulers of earth's vast dominions light the skies with martyrs' fire. Truth mistaken, God forsaken, banes of righteousness arise; yet shall they reap sore displeasure, sure defeat before God's eyes.

2 To the children of the promise God shall give the throne this day. With a scepter forged of iron, they shall dash their foes as clay: faith revealing, humbly kneeling, quench the fire and sheathe the sword, for God's wrath is quickly kindled; blest are they who serve the Lord.

#### **Charge and Benediction**

Postlude Ebenezer Paul Manz

(Music and words are used with permission of CCLI License #930368 Cover Art: Joseph Being Sold Into Slavery, Alexander Maximilian Seitz (1811-1888)

#### Within the Fellowship

For prayer concerns or if you would like to be part of the Email Prayer Chain Team, please contact: Rev. Kelley Shin at kshin@fairmontchurch.org.

For emergencies, contact Rev. Brian Maguire at (937) 269-2864 or Rev. Kelley Shin at (937) 751-0752.

#### **Announcements**

Lenten School, shared with our friends from Hilliard United Methodist Church Evenings at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.

Tuesday Nights: Soul Stories-Reading imaginatively with artists and children (Lead by Hilliard.)

Wednesday Nights: Lectio Divina-Reading contemplatively with mystics (Lead by Hilliard and Fairmont.)

Thursday Nights: Beth Midrash (house of study)-Reading critically with scholars (Lead by Fairmont.)

#### Texts for each week of Lenten School:

Week Two (March 15-17)	Genesis 45	Reconciliation
Week Three (March 22-24)	Exodus 1	Alternatives to Bondage
Week Four (March 29-31)	Exodus 3	The Burning Bush
Week Five (April 5-7)	Exodus 4-5	Let My People Go

**Fairmont Men's Group:** We will meet at MCL Cafeteria on Thursday, March 17th at 11:30 am. Sign "Lunch" on the attendance pad Sunday or call the church office (299-3539) or email office@fairmontchurch.org on Wednesday, March 16th, to make a reservation. All the men of the church are invited. We would like to see some new faces!

**Theology on Tap:** Join us for Theology on Tap this Friday, March 18th at 5:00 p.m. on Zoom. Just because we do not have a bar does not mean we cannot still get together and share. Bring your favorite beverage and join us for our virtual "Theology on Tap." Watch for the link in our weekly Beside Still Waters email or here:

**Theology on Tap:** Friday, March 18th at 5:00pm

Zoom Meeting Link: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86580191783">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86580191783</a>

Zoom Meeting ID: 865 8019 1783

## **Worship Staff**

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#### The Most Important Person in the Old Testament You Have Never Heard Of

Today's reading introduces us to one of the most important people in the Old Testament. I am sure you have never considered him. He is not named, but salvation history turns on him. When Joseph and Benjamin are sent off on their errand by Jacob to find their brothers and their flocks, they are sent to the vicinity of Shechem. Unfortunately, their information is wrong. The brothers passed through Shechem, but then went on to the region of Dothan.

It is important to remember that in Genesis 34, Jacob's sons had murdered all the men of Shechem in revenge for the rape of Dinah (have you ever read The Red Tent?). So, Shechem at this point is something of a ghost town. Moreover, Jacob's sons and their retainers were known as the violent perpetrators who committed this violence. So, it is not surprising that there are not many people around and anyone who saw any of the sons of Jacob approaching would have been wise to run and hide.

One man however remains. He is not named. He explains to Joseph and Benjamin that the other sons had indeed passed through before heading off to Dothan and then points them in the right direction. Consider what would have happened if that man either had not been there to offer directions or had not given directions. Joseph and Benjamin would have fulfilled Jacob's instructions but not found their brothers. Not finding them, Joseph and Benjamin would have safely returned home to Jacob and their homestead. Consequently, Joseph would never have been captured and sold into slavery in Egypt. He never would have undergone years of transformative suffering and never would have risen to high rank in Pharaoh's Egypt. Accordingly, he never would have been able to offer shelter and asylum to Jacob and his family when a prolonged famine struck Canaan. Lacking a place of refuge, the family would have either died out or broken up to be lost among all the other nomadic tribes of the region. There would have been no Hebrew people in Egypt, no Moses, no Exodus, no Sinai, no covenant, and in time no Israel, no Judaism, no prophets, no Temple, no Jesus, and no Bible.

The Joseph cycle that ends the book of Genesis is both the culmination of the dysfunctional family history of the patriarchs and the bridge to the book of Exodus. Curiously, God does not make any direct appearances in this final section of Genesis. God never speaks directly to anyone. God does not perform any miracles. But that does not mean God is absent. God works God's intentions through the subtle working of providence, shaping people and events in ways we often cannot perceive at the time, even something as simple as a man by the side of the road offering directions.

We cannot know what role we play in God's plans in this life. But we can, like this anonymous man, be attentive to every moment.

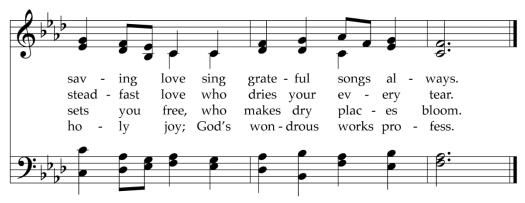
# 653

# Give Thanks to God Who Hears Our Cries

(Psalm 107)



The singing of psalm paraphrases is the most long-standing musical practice in Reformed tradition, dating from John Calvin's own congregation in Geneva in the 16th century. This recent paraphrase of Psalm 107 illustrates the interpretive flexibility that is a hallmark of the form.



- 5 If you have felt your courage fail before a violent sea and cried to God, who stilled the storm, and made the wild wind flee, then in the congregation praise the One who heard your plea.
- 6 So praise the One whose love is great, whose kindness is well-known.
  Consider well the healing hand and help you have been shown, and tell the world what God has done.
  Praise God and God alone!

# Help Us Accept Each Other 754



- 1 Help us ac cept each oth er as Christ ac cept-ed us; 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life
- 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les sons, as in our dai ly life 3 Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved
- 4 Lord, for to-day's en-coun-ters with all who are in need,



sis - ter, broth - er, each em - brace. teach us per son to as we strug - gle be hu - man and search for hope and faith. to liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to truth in love; do the who hun - ger ac - cep-tance, for jus - tice and for bread, for



Be pres ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring to be - lieve Teach us to care for peo - ple, for just for some, not prac - tice your ac - cep-tance un - til know by heart hold - ing need eyes see - ing, new hands for new for on:



our-selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live. we we find them, or love them as as they may be-come. ta for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing with your Spir - it; Lord, free us us; make us re - new

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The scriptural basis of this text is Romans 15:7, recast as a prayer in the opening two lines of the first stanza. The many implications of living as people who have been accepted by Christ fill the remaining stanzas. This tune was composed for the first publication of this text.

# 758 Why Do Nations Rage Together



In this concise paraphrase of Psalm 2, the first stanza describes a political struggle from a human perspective, while the second stanza describes how the matter is resolved through God's power. The frequent three-note figures in this Welsh tune help to convey a sense of turmoil.

# JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

