



"how often should
I forgive?"
"Not SEVEN times,
but, I tell you,
SEVENTY-
SEVEN
times."

Matthew 18:21-22, NRSV

GEORGETOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
203 N. BEDFORD ST.
GEORGETOWN, DE 19947
SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

September 13, 2020

Pre-Service Praise Singing

“Change My Heart, O God”

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

You are the Potter, I am the clay.

Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

“Awesome God”

Our God ... is an awesome God,
he reigns from heaven above with
wisdom, power, and love –
our God is an awesome God.

Repeat

Announcements

Prelude

“Thy Holy Wings, O Savior”

Linda C. Wolfe

Swedish folk melody,
arr. by T. Osman

Invocation

Pastor Jerry

Call to Worship

Exodus 15

L: O Lord, majestic in holiness, who is like you?

C: **In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew
your adversaries.**

L: O Lord, awesome in splendor, who is like you?

C: **Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power,
shattered the enemy.**

L: O Lord, worker of wonders, who is like you?

C: **Let us worship our God, who brings us hope.**

Opening Hymn

"Amazing Grace!"

HWC #202

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind but now I see.
3. The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures.
He will me shield and portion be
as long as life endures.
4. Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come.
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.
5. When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Faith Sharing with Children

"God Still Works Miracles"

One of the great episodes in the Old Testament is the miracle of the Israelites escaping Pharaoh's army by walking right across a dry sea-bed. When their leader, Moses, led the people up to the water's edge and commanded them to cross, the people were very afraid. But the Lord God sent a powerful wind to blow the water out of the way, creating a dry path for the people to cross. The Israelites were saved and Pharaoh's army was destroyed.

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Pray after me:

Jesus, you are the miracle . . . that saves us from death . . . Be near to us when we are in danger . . . and lead us to safety on the other side . . . Amen.

Call to Confession

Pastor Jerry

Recognizing that we fail to fulfill our calling as a covenant people, let us tell the truth to the Lord who receives us with mercy.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful God, we are ever in need of your grace and your mercy. When we have injured your little ones, forgive us. When we have laughed at others' misfortunes, pardon us. When we have belittled the weak, humble us. Help us walk the trials of life with your powerful hope and your loving grace.

Silent prayer or meditation.

Assurance of Pardon (Ps 124)

Pastor Jerry

God is always more compassionate than we will ever be. Christ looks upon us with patience, even when we do not deserve it. Trust God's mercy and live in freedom! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

Congregational Response

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:
When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
come and listen to me.

Repeat

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Prayer for Illumination

Pastor Jerry

Lord, we come to your Word, overwhelmed with distractions, consumed with busyness, occupied by worries. Send your Spirit to focus our attention in order that we might hear what you are saying to your church. Amen.

O.T. Reading

Exodus 14:19-31 ^{NRSV}

- 19 The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them;
and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them.
- 20 It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night;
one did not come near the other all night.
- 21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land;
and the waters were divided.
- 22 The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.
- 23 The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers.
- 24 At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic.
- 25 He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty.

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The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

- 26 Then the LORD said to Moses,
"Stretch out your hand over the sea,
so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians,
upon their chariots and chariot drivers."
- 27 So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea,
and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth.
As the Egyptians fled before it,
the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea.
- 28 The waters returned
and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers,
the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them
into the sea; not one of them remained.
- 29 But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea,
the waters forming a wall for them
on their right and on their left.
- 30 Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians;
and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.
- 31 Israel saw the great work that the LORD did
against the Egyptians.
So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD
and in his servant Moses.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 16:21-28 ^{NRSV}

- 21 Then Peter came and said to him,
"Lord, if another member of the church sins against me,
how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"
- 22 Jesus said to him, "Not seven times,
but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

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- 23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven
may be compared to a king
who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.
- 24 When he began the reckoning,
one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him;
- 25 and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold,
together with his wife and children
and all his possessions, and payment to be made.
- 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying,
'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'
- 27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him
and forgave him the debt.
- 28 But that same slave, as he went out,
came upon one of his fellow slaves
who owed him a hundred denarii;
and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.'
- 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him,
'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'
- 30 But he refused; then he went
and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.
- 31 When his fellow slaves saw what had happened,
they were greatly distressed,
and they went and reported to their lord
all that had taken place.
- 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him,
'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt
because you pleaded with me.
- 33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave,
as I had mercy on you?'
- 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured
until he would pay his entire debt.
- 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you,
if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

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Sermon

“Receiving Pardon”

Pastor Jerry

Affirmation of Faith

From *The Confession of Belhar* (Article 2)

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.

We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God’s Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain.

We believe that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted. Amen.

Sermon Hymn

“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace,” vss. 1 and 3

1. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord.
and where there’s doubt, true faith in you.

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Refrain

Master, grant that I may never seek ...
so much to be consoled as to console ...
to be understood, as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.

3. Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Refrain

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Pastor Jerry

The Lord's Prayer

Call for the Offering

Pastor Jerry

Offertory

"Will You Come and Follow Me?" Traditional Scottish
tune, arr. by C. E. Walz

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

**Giving God, all we are and all we have come from you.
We offer back to you what has always been yours.
You have entrusted your gifts to us, so we return
them to you, trusting that you will multiply them.
We pray through Jesus who gave the totality
of his life for us. Amen.**

Closing Hymn

"God! When Human Bonds Are Broken"

Georgetown Presbyterian Church

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1. God! When human bonds are broken
and we lack the love or skill
to restore the hope of healing,
give us grace and make us still.
2. Through that stillness, with your Spirit
come into our world of stress,
for the sake of Christ forgiving
all the failures we confess.
4. Send us, God of new beginnings,
humbly hopeful into life.
Use us as a means of blessing,
make us stronger, give us faith.
5. Give us faith to be more faithful,
give us hope to be more true,
give us love to go on learning:
God! Encourage and renew!

Benediction

Pastor Jerry

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Manse Renovations

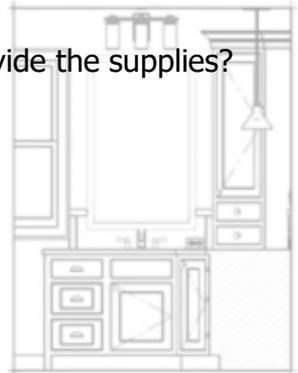
Donations are needed to continue the Manse renovation work. Please prayerfully consider donating:

- \$1,200.00 Washer & Dryer
(will accept used if less than 5 years old)
- \$1,125.00 One room, floor repair and refinishing
(8 rooms needed)
- \$ 680.00 One new window
(15 more needed)
- \$ 300.00 Master bathroom vanity, faucet, mirror and light

Or can you provide the labor if we provide the supplies?

We need:

- Cleaner (garage door)
- Mover (appliances)
- Outside yard work
- Painter



First Fruit Cart:



Thank you for the donated food items for the Wesley Food Pantry. We delivered 26 food items from the 38 people in attendance. Let's go for 100% next time, October 4!

Outdoor Worship to Continue

Session has authorized worship outdoors for every Sunday, weather permitting, through September 27. Thanks for your enthusiastic participation.

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September Birthdays

1	Quinn Matz	2	Jerry Wolfe
6	Beth Smith	13	Michael Garvilla
18	Reginald Johnson	19	Scarlett Illian
20	Karen Berry	21	Bill Celander
22	Imran Mall	24	Bobby Gulab
25	Beth Garvilla	25	Carol Celander
26	Kasher Gulab	27	Adam Mall
28	Amin Mall	28	Austin Mall
29	Sharon Hubbard		

September Anniversaries

- 01 Mike & Karen Berry (1990)
- 08 Alex & Maryann Donnan
- 25 Robert & Barbara Chudakewich (2010)