GROWING IN A GOD-LISTENING HEART

July 12, 2020 10:00 a.m.

Union Church in Waban Summer Services



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

"I Will Never Be The Same Again"

Hillsong

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Stacy Swain

OPENING HYMN

"Spirit of Gentleness"

#286 verses 1, 3 and 4

(*Refrain*) Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free, Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from pacidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep, Then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep; And over the eons you called to each thing, "Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings." (*Refrain*)

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill, Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still; And down in the city you called once again, When you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. (*Refrain*)

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes, From the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams; Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes. With bold new decisions your people arise. (*Refrain*)

PRAYER FOR GOD'S GRACE

Jaap van Reijendam

Creator, Redeemer, Sustaining God. We ask your grace be upon us this day. We want to love you with our whole hearts and love our neighbors as ourselves, but sometimes find it hard to do so.

So shine the light of your love into our lives, we pray. Guide us and renew us. Help us to more fully experience your grace so that we may be beacons of hope, sources of comfort, fonts of inspiration, and ambassadors of your love, in this beautiful but wounded world. We pray all of this in the name of Love. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

*THE GREETING OF PEACE

Leader: May God's Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

SCRIPTURE READING

Kathy Malone and Elisabeth van Reijendam

1Kings 3: 5-15 (The Message)

The king went to Gibeon, the most prestigious of the local shrines, to worship. He sacrificed a thousand Whole-Burnt-Offerings on that altar. That night, there in Gibeon, God appeared to Solomon in a dream: God said, "What can I give you? Ask." Solomon said, "You were extravagantly generous in love with David my father, and he lived faithfully in your presence, his relationships were just and his heart right. And you have persisted in this great and generous love by giving him—and this very day!—a son to sit on his throne. "And now here I am: God, my God, you have made me, your servant, ruler of the kingdom in place of David my father. I'm too young for this, a mere child! I don't know the ropes, hardly know the 'ins' and 'outs' of this job. And here I am, set down in the middle of the people you've chosen, a great people—far too many to ever count. "Here's what I want: Give me a God-listening heart so I can lead your people well, discerning the difference between good and evil. For who on their own is capable of leading your glorious people?" God, the Master, was delighted with Solomon's response. And God said to him, "Because you have asked for this and haven't grasped after a long life, or riches, or the doom of your enemies, but you have asked for the ability to lead and govern well, I'll give you what you've asked for—I'm giving you a wise and mature heart. There's never been one like you before; and there'll be no one after. As a bonus, I'm giving you both the wealth and glory you didn't ask for—there's not a king anywhere who will come up to your mark. And if you stay on course, keeping your eye on the life-map and the God-signs as your father David did, I'll also give you a long life." Solomon woke up—what a dream! He returned to Jerusalem, took his place before the Chest of the Covenant of God, and worshiped by sacrificing Whole-Burnt-Offerings and Peace-Offerings. Then he laid out a banquet for everyone in his service.

Mark 10: 17-27

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother." He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

SERMON

"The Gospel according to Joniel - Part 1"

Jaap van Reijendam

REFLECTING TOGETHER

HYMN "Speak To My Heart" Donnie McClurkin

Speak to my heart, Holy Spirit Give me the words that will bring new life Words on the wings of the morning, the dark night will fade away If You speak to my heart now

Speak to my heart, Holy Spirit Message of love, love to encourage me Lifting my heart from despair, how You love, love me, and care for me Speak to my heart now, oh Lord

Speak to my heart, Lord, give me Your holy word If I can hear from You, then I'll know what to do I won't go alone, I'll never go on my own Just let Your spirit guide and let Your word abide, say A TIME OF PRAYER Rev. Stacy Swain

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And with thy spirit.

One: Let us begin our prayer in silence.

Prayers of the People

THE LORD'S PRAYER (TRESPASSES)

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 trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

The power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE "Give Me A Clean Heart" Fred Hammond

SERVICE OF SHARING

Jaap van Reijendam

OFFERTORY SOLO "How Can I Keep from Singing"

Luke van Reijendam

*DOXOLOGY (Together)

All people who on Earth do dwell, sing out to God with cheerful voice, serve God with mirth, whose praise you tell, whose presence calls you to rejoice. Amen

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Together)

Lord, richly bless and multiply these offerings of gratitude, so that all whose lives they touch may know the grace and power of your love. Amen.

SHARING IN THE LIFE AND MINISTRY

Rev. Stacy Swain

*CLOSING HYMN

"Everytime I feel the Spirit"

#282

Every time I feel the Spirit Moving in my heart, I will pray. Yes, every time I feel the Spirit Moving in my heart, I will pray.

Upon the mountain my God spoke, Out of God's mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all around me; looked so fine; I asked my God if all were mine.

Every time I feel the Spirit Moving in my heart, I will pray. Yes, every time I feel the Spirit Moving in my heart, I will pray.

Oh, Jordan river chilly and cold, It chills the body, not the soul. There's only one train on this track; It runs to heaven and right back.

BENEDICTION

Jaap van Reijendam