

HOWEVER YOU HAVE COME. YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.



First Presbyterian Church

70 East Main Street Victor, NY 14564 585-924-2289 www.victorpres.org **Pastor:** Rev. Michael McNamara Guest Organist: Sue Belcher **AV:** Bill Martz Greeters: Clay Girouard & Sue Grabowski Liturgist: Dean Cornwell Fellowship: Steve Mowers & Sue Toomey **Order of Worship** (*Please stand if you are able.) February 4, 2024, 10am

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

*Call to Worship Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praises to our God For God is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting

God heals the brokenhearted. And binds up their wounds. God determines the number of the stars: God gives to all of them their names. Great is our Lord, and abundant in ability God's understanding is beyond measure.

*Opening Hymn GTG No. 12

"Immortal, Invisible"

Psalm 147

Gathering Prayer

Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.

By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Assurance of Pardon

*Passing the Peace

"Dona Nobis Pacem" arr. by Barbara Wallace Anthem

Time with Children

Praver of Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

Scripture Readings (cont.) It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain and spreads them like a tent to live in, who brings princes to naught and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom, then, will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them. calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and assert, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord. and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God. the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary: his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted, but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary: they shall walk and not faint.

Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. 31 He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

Scripture Readings (cont.)

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed by demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons, and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also, for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Sermon

"Searching and Seeking"

*Hymn of Response GTG No. 686

"God of Our Life"

Offering *Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

*Closing Hymn GTG No. 645 "Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above"

Benediction

Postlude

Cover Art: Giovanni, di Paolo. Expulsion from the Garden of Eden, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

Special thanks to Sue Belcher for stepping in on short notice, and sharing her gift of music with us !

(cont.)