

Week 3

I've been meaning to ask...  
what do you need?

## Here if You Need Me

I got the call and almost  
rushed right over.  
I wanted to hold your hand and  
tell you it would be okay.  
I wanted to start a meal train.  
I wanted to bring casseroles and flowers  
and hope of better days.  
I wanted to take my heart  
out of my chest  
and put it in yours  
so that the ache might fade.  
I wanted to speak, and fight,  
with the person in charge.  
I wanted to get justice,  
I wanted to make it fair.  
I wanted to start a campaign.  
I wanted to rewind time,  
to easy, better days.

There is so much that I want to do,  
but it's not about me.  
It's about you.  
So tell me—  
what do *you* need?  
I am here.  
I am listening.

# First Presbyterian Church IN VICTOR

**WHOEVER YOU ARE.  
HOWEVER YOU HAVE COME.  
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.**

I've been  
meaning  
to ask...

what do you need?

First Presbyterian Church  
70 East Main Street  
Victor, NY 14564  
585-924-2289  
[www.victorpres.org](http://www.victorpres.org)  
Pastor Nick Dorland  
Organist Ayn Patrowicz



WRITTEN BY: REV. SARAH ARE | [SANCTIFIEDART.ORG](http://SANCTIFIEDART.ORG)

**Order of Worship**            **September 26, 2021, 10am**  
**18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Prelude**                    “My Peace I Give You” by Barbara Heastings

**Welcome & Announcements**  
**Moment for Mission**

**Call to Worship\***

Family of faith, this must be the place.  
This is the place for connection and growth, for community  
and hope.

This must be the place for questions like,  
“Where are you from?” and, “What do you need?”  
For whispers of: “I’ve been thinking of you,” and,  
“I’ve been meaning to ask. . .”

This must be the place, because all belong here.  
All are welcome here. All hurt and joy, needs and prayers,  
dreams and love, are welcome here.

So for our call to worship today, we are going to lean into  
invitation for connection.

I want to invite you to take two minutes to introduce yourself  
to someone around you and to share one thing that has  
brought you deep joy this week so that we might begin our  
service with joy, gratitude, and connection.  
(Take time for connection)

God is near. Let us worship Holy God.

*\*Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

**Opening Hymn #210**    “Our God Our Help in Ages Past” (v.1, 3, 5)

**Unison Prayer of Confession\***

**Gracious God, sometimes life feels like cooking with  
flour— it looks like it should be easy, but we always  
make a mess.**

**This is particularly true when it comes to our relationships.  
We so desperately long to say the right thing, to be the  
right thing, to find the right solution, that we overstep  
the line.**

**Forgive us for assuming the place you fill.  
Forgive us for imagining that we, in all our humanity,  
could possibly fix all the hurt in this world.**

**Unison Prayer of Confession (cont.)\***

**Instead, give us the grace and the strength to stand by  
our loved ones in their moments of need to witness  
their hurt without trying to fix it.**

**You are God. We are not. Teach us how to be a friend.**

**Teach us how to ask, “What do you need?”**

**Teach us how to point to you. Gratefully we pray.**

**Amen.**

*\*Prayer by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

**Responsive Assurance of Pardon\***

Family of faith, no matter how many times you have spoken  
without listening,

assumed without knowing, offered without asking,  
or rushed without waiting— you are forgiven.

God knows your desire and your intent.

God knows when we try, and miss the mark, and God  
surrounds us in grace.

So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**Every day is a new day for love. We are claimed. We  
are forgiven. We are invited into relationship.**

**Thanks be to God for growth and grace that know no  
end. Amen.**

*\*Prayer by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

**Gloria Patri #579**

“Glory Be to the Father”

**Moment for All Ages**

**Unison Prayer for Illumination**

**Eternal God, in the reading of the Scripture, may your  
Word be heard; in the meditations of our hearts, may  
your Word be known; and in the faithfulness of our  
lives, may your Word be shown. Amen.**

**Scripture** (insert)

Job 2:11-13; 2 Timothy 4:9-18

**Sermon**

“I’ve been meaning to ask...What do you need?”

**Hymn of Response (insert)**

“There Is a Time for Silence”



## Affirmation of Faith:

**We believe in relationships.  
We believe in asking hard questions, in showing up  
for one another,  
and in sitting together through the pain.  
We believe in listening with grace, learning with  
curiosity, and apologizing with sincerity.  
We believe in asking for help, saying what we need,  
and trusting that no degree of vulnerability could  
strip us of God's love.  
We believe in trying our best and offering grace  
when our best is not enough.  
And we believe that God is in all relationships—  
modeling for us the value of community  
through the relationships of the Trinity.  
So we love today, and we strive to love even more  
tomorrow.  
Let it be so. Amen.**

*\*Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

## Offering Doxology

### Unison Prayer of Dedication

**Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift,  
teach us to render to you all that we have and all that  
we are, that we may praise you, not with our lips only,  
but with our whole lives, turning the duties, the  
sorrows, and the joys of all our days into a living  
sacrifice to you, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

### Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer \*

God of the here and now, My, oh my, how we need you.  
This world seems to turn upside down all the time. Our center  
of gravity feels off.  
In moments like these, we are particularly grateful for the care  
you offer and the stability of friends. So today we say a prayer  
of thanks for the people in our life who take the time to ask:  
“What do you need?”  
Gracious God, help us to be those people for others.  
Give us the eyes to see when our neighbors are in need, and the  
wisdom to ask,  
“What do you need?” Stop our assumptions cold in their  
tracks, and instead, carve out space in us to listen.

We are practicing breathing deeply. We are practicing being still.  
We are practicing opening ourselves up to you.  
We are practicing listening—slowly and intentionally.  
We are practicing sitting with our pain and honoring it.  
We are practicing saying what we need and not being afraid to  
ask for help.  
And in all of this, we need you. Oh how we need you...  
So gather us in and hold us close. Be with us in our waiting and  
in our praying.  
Be with us in our grief and our sorrow.  
Be in our relationships, that we might be blessed with friends  
who support us  
and that we might be the friends who can bless others.  
With deep gratitude and with true humility, we pray the words  
your son taught us to pray, saying together...

**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.**

*\*Prayer by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

## Closing Hymn

“My Life Flows on in Endless Song”

## Benediction\*

Family of faith,  
as you leave this place, may God grant you  
the curiosity to counter assumptions,  
the vulnerability to befriend, the bravery to speak your truth,  
the wisdom to listen, the strength to ask for help,  
the resiliency to chose love, even when it's hard,  
and the awareness of the Holy Spirit always beside you.  
In the name of the Great Connector—Love itself, go in peace.

*\*Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

## Postlude

“Fugue in C” by G. F. Handel



## Job 2:11-13

### Job's Three Friends

<sup>11</sup> Now when Job's three friends heard of all these troubles that had come upon him, each of them set out from his home—Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. They met together to go and console and comfort him. <sup>12</sup> When they saw him from a distance, they did not recognize him, and they raised their voices and wept aloud; they tore their robes and threw dust in the air upon their heads. <sup>13</sup> They sat with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his suffering was very great.

## 2 Timothy 4:9-18

### Personal Instructions

<sup>9</sup> Do your best to come to me soon, <sup>10</sup> for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. <sup>11</sup> Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful in my ministry. <sup>12</sup> I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. <sup>13</sup> When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. <sup>14</sup> Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will pay him back for his deeds. <sup>15</sup> You also must beware of him, for he strongly opposed our message.

<sup>16</sup> At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! <sup>17</sup> But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup> The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.



“Paul in Prison” by Lauren Wright Pittman |

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*Thank you to these members who are  
helping with worship today-*

**Deacon Greeter: Cheryl Nichols**



## Our God, Our Help in Ages Past 210

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

ST. ANNE CM

Attr. William Croft, 1708



1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, Or earth re - ceived its frame,
3. A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone;
4. Time, like an ev - er roll - ing stream, Soon bears us all a - way;



- Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:  
 From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.  
 Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.  
 We fly for - got - ten, as a dream Dies at the o - pening day.



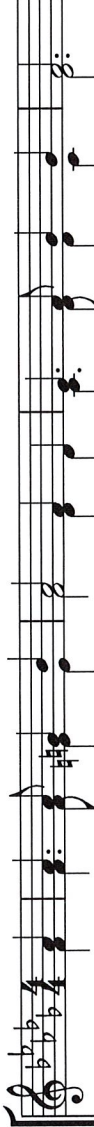
5. Our God, our help in ages past,  
 Our hope for years to come,  
 Be Thou our guard while life shall last,  
 And our eternal home.

# There Is a Time for Silence

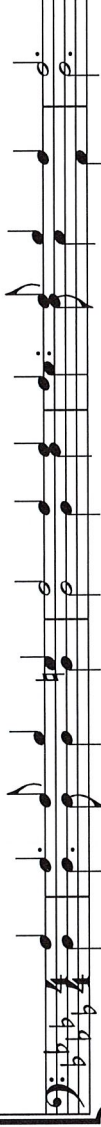
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2020

St. Christopher

Frederick Charles Maker, 1881



1. There is a time for si - lence, a time to lis - ten well,
2. There is a time for ask - ing, a time to pause and pray,
3. There's time for hum - ble stu - dy— for read - ing and for thought.
4. There's time for good re - flec - tion, to pon - der who we've been,
5. And there's a time to work now—to bold - ly say their names,



a time to hear the pain-ful stor-ies oth - ers have to tell.  
there is a time to hear the pro-phets speak of God's new day,  
God, may we learn from oth-ers of the jus - tice they have sought,  
to think how our own at - ti-tudes have paved the way for sin,  
to pro - test and to or - gan-ize, to ad - vo-cate for change,



O God, may we who love to talk now hear the rage and fear,  
to hear the words of Je - sus who taught wel - come, truth and love,  
And may we learn from those who brave - ly stand a - gainst the hate,  
to lis - ten to the ones we fear—to folks we may re - sent—  
to use our voi - ces and to stand with those who are op - pressed.



and may we learn from neigh-bors who have long been si - lenced here.  
to hear the Spi - rit speak-ing through the ones who shout, "E-nough!"  
So when we're called to jus-tice, we, your church, won't hes - i - tate.  
to hear of Je - sus' call to love—and hum - bly to re - pent.  
As we seek jus - tice, hand in hand, Lord, may your world be blessed.





## 821 My Life Flows On

How Can I Keep from Singing?

1 My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion.  
 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.  
 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav - ior liv - eth.  
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
 What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.  
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

## Refrain

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

In the *New York Observer* of August 7, 1868, this text was titled "Always Rejoicing," and was attributed to "Pauline T." This may well be where the Baptist pastor and musician to whom it is usually credited encountered the words that he later published with his tune.