

First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley Worship Bulletin—03/19/2023

❖ **Prelude: Take My Life, and Let it be Consecrated** (arr. Donna Williams)

❖ **Call to Worship**—*Rev. Michelle Vecchio-Lyzenga*

One: Jacob ran from his troubles.

All: God wrestled him and gave him a new name in the wilderness.

One: The bleeding woman hid her wounds.

All: Jesus saw and healed her in the wilderness.

One: The devil tempted Jesus time and time again.

All: Jesus claimed his identity in the wilderness.

One: God meets us in the wilderness. God forms us in the wilderness.

All: God is with us—before, through, and after the wilderness.

One: Come, let us worship God!

❖ **Song: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah** (Hymnal #634)

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with your powerful hand
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven
feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer
Be thou still my strength and shield, Be thou still my strength and shield

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside
bear me through the swelling current, land me safe on Canaan's side
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee, I will ever give to thee
Amen!

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" by John Hughes, William Williams arr. Samuel Metzger; © Public Domain;
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❖ **Prayer of Confession**

We come seeking God in mighty earthquakes.
Yet you are found in a baby's touch.
We come listening for God in resounding thunder.
Yet you speak in silence.
We come expecting God in sweeping victories.
Yet you are found in the least of these.

Save us, O God, from our self-created wilderness spaces.
Save us, O God, from our idols.
Save us, O God, from our aimless wandering.

❖ **Assurance of Pardon**

One: Friends, believe the good news:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and are being made whole. Amen.

❖ **Passing the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

❖ **Regathering Music**

❖ **Welcome**

❖ **Response: The Lord Is In His Holy Temple**

The Lord is in his holy temple
the Lord is in his holy temple
let all the earth keep silence
let all the earth keep silence before him
keep silence keep silence before him. Amen.

"The Lord Is In His Holy Temple" by George Frederick Root; © Public Domain; CCLI License # 133385

❖ **Lost in the Wilderness**—*Rosemarie Eichner-Raja*

❖ Scripture: 1 Kings 19:1-13a

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, “So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.” Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die, “It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.” Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, “Get up and eat.” He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. He ate and drank and lay down again. The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, “Get up and eat, or the journey will be too much for you.” He got up and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He answered, “I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake, and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

❖ Sermon: Facing Our Fear of... Silence—*Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell*

❖ Anthem: My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” by Isaac Watts, Mack Wilberg; © Music: 1995 Hinshaw Music, Inc.; Words: Public Domain; CCLI License # 133385

❖ **Invitation to Silence**—*Laura Sera*

❖ **Lord's Prayer**—*Rev. Mark Stryker*

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.

❖ **Call to Give**

❖ **Song: What A Friend We Have In Jesus** (Hymnal #622)

What a friend we have in Jesus all our sins and griefs to bear What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer O what peace we often forfeit O what needless pain we bear all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer	Are we weak and heavy laden cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior still our refuge take it to the Lord in prayer Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer In his arms he'll take and shield thee thou wilt find a solace there
Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged take it to the Lord in prayer Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share Jesus knows our every weakness take it to the Lord in prayer	Blessed Savior thou hast promised thou wilt all our burdens bear May we ever, Lord, be bringing all to thee in earnest prayer Soon in glory bright, unclouded there will be no need for prayer Rapture, praise, and endless worship will be our sweet portion there

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❖ **Benediction**—*Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell*

❖ **Postlude: Cathedral Fanfare** (Gordon Young)