

Cover Art

"Yellowwood" Barb Knuckles

I have favorite trees (often fallen, lightning struck, or otherwise quirky, misshapen trees). I especially like trees in the winter, when their "bones" are visible. I am intrigued by how trees can sustain serious trauma and persist, working around damage and loss, scarred but still growing. This one is the old Yellowwood at the Delaware/16th corner of Redeemer's property.

Merging the paint pours and drawings required finding ways to unify disparate elements. I had to try new things, take new risks, and move beyond what I already knew and was good at. I worked to incorporate a dependence on the creative collaboration of the Holy Spirit as I continued to be acutely aware that I did not know where this path was leading, or if any of it would work out in the end. Every time I got stuck and did not know what to do next, instead of changing direction or retreating, I asked the Holy Spirit for help, and within a day or so, a next step would come to mind. I have long been committed to offer my work TO God as a kind of service, but thinking about doing my work WITH God (through the Holy Spirit) was a new practice. I do believe it was how we were created to live.

Banners "Promise Fulfilled" by Karyl Boring

Window Covering

More Than Tolerators Community Group

Vestments

Barb Knuckles and Kathryn Dart, with help from the congregation

Communion Set

Matt Kenyon

Welcome

Call to Worship

From Psalm 103

Leader	The LORD works righteousness and justice to all who are mistreated. He revealed his character to Moses and his deeds to the people of Israel.
All	The LORD is compassionate and merciful; it takes a lot to make him angry and he has immeasurable loving kindness that remains constant.
Leader	Even when he must stand against us, it is not forever; his anger ends, sooner than it should, and we do not get what we deserve.
All	For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west. The LORD is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him.
Leader	For he knows how weak we are; he remembers we are only dust. Our days on earth are like grass; like wildflowers, we bloom and die. The wind blows, and we are gone— as though we had never been here.
All	But the love of the LORD remains forever with those who fear him. His salvation extends to the children of the children of the children, of those who cling to his covenant, of those who obey his commandments!

Opening Hymn

"Father Long Before Creation"

AllFather long before creation, you have chosen us in love,And your love so deep, so moving, draws us close to Christ above.Still it keeps us, still it keeps us firmly fixed in Christ alone.

Though the world may change its fashion, you, our God, are e'er the same; Your compassion and your cov'nant, through all ages will remain. God's own children, God's own children must forever praise his name.

Your compassion is my story, is my boasting all the day; Mercy free and never failing, moves my will, directs my way. God so loved us, God so loved us that his only Son he gave.

Loving Father now before you, we will ever praise your love, And our songs will sound unceasing, 'til we reach our home above, Giving glory, giving glory, to our God and to the Lamb;

Giving glory, giving glory, to our God and to the Lamb.

words: Chinese Hymn; trans.: Francis Jones; Andrew Osenga, 2005

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession

From Psalm 9; Deuteronomy 10:18-19; Luke 7:22-23

Leader All	Lord our God—maker, wooer, judge of our hearts— Give us grace to step into your light to confess our sin to you, loving, holy Father.
Leader	You summon us in your word to sing songs of your justice, to praise you for all your wonderful deeds.
All	Our hearts turn from you, and praise falls away from our lips. We resist praising your justice, Because we want a justice that serves our own causes, our control, our righteous image.
Leader	You tell us to defend the widow, the orphan, and all those who are oppressed.
All	We spend our energy defending our own ideas rather than following you into the places of suffering and affliction around us. We point our fingers and blame each other, instead of acknowledging our own sin before you.
Leader	Jesus gave relief to the needy and afflicted.
All	We turn our backs.
Leader	His gospel was good news to the poor.
All	We isolate ourselves from those in need.
Leader	Father, Son, and Spirit, receive and re-shape our hearts.
All	Hold them tenderly, mold them fiercely. Love and deliver us now and in the day of our Lord Jesus.

Song of Need

"Rock of Ages"

All Not the labor of my hands Can fulfill thy Law's demands; Could my zeal no respite know? Could my tears forever flow? All for sin could not atone; Thou must save and thou alone.

words Augustus M. Toplady, 1776; music Thomas Hastings, 1830

Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

From 1 John 4:7-21

Leader	In this God made his love known among us, that he sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through Him.
All	This is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a perfect sacrifice for our sins.
Leader	God has given his Spirit to us.
All	We testify that Jesus is our Savior; and not ours alone, but of the whole world.
Leader	We know and rely on the depths of love God has for us.
All	We abide in God's love. Any love we have is because he first loved us.

Song in the Gospel

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

AllJesus, Lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past;Safe into the haven guide; O receive my soul at last!

Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find; Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick and lead the blind. All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring; Cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.

Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee; Leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me. Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of thee; Spring thou up within my heart, rise to all eternity.

words Charles Wesley, 1740; music Joseph Parry, 1879

Song in the Gospel

"It is Well"

All When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot, thou has taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."

> It is well, with my soul; It is well, with my soul; It is well, it is well with my soul.

Tho' Satan should buffet, tho' trials should come, Let this blest assurance control: That Christ has regarded my helpless estate And has shed his own blood for my soul.

It is well, with my soul; It is well, with my soul; It is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin - O the bliss of this glorious thought! -My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more; Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

It is well, with my soul; It is well, with my soul; It is well, it is well with my soul.

And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend; "Even so," it is well with my soul.

It is well, with my soul; It is well, with my soul; It is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well, with my soul; It is well, with my soul; It is well, it is well with my soul.

words Horatio G. Spafford, 1873; music Philip P. Bliss, 1876

Prayer of Dependence

Offering of Gifts and Service

Online giving available at [redeemindy.org/give]



Scripture

Psalm 9

Reader	 ¹ I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. ² I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High.
	 ³ My enemies turn back; they stumble and perish before you. ⁴ For you have upheld my right and my cause, sitting enthroned as the righteous judge. ⁵ You have rebuked the nations and destroyed the wicked; you have blotted out their name for ever and ever. ⁶ Endless ruin has overtaken my enemies, you have uprooted their cities; even the memory of them has perished.
	 ⁷ The LORD reigns forever; he has established his throne for judgment. ⁸ He rules the world in righteousness and judges the peoples with equity. ⁹ The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. ¹⁰ Those who know your name trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you.
	 ¹¹ Sing the praises of the LORD, enthroned in Zion; proclaim among the nations what he has done. ¹² For he who avenges blood remembers; he does not ignore the cries of the afflicted.
	 ¹³ LORD, see how my enemies persecute me! Have mercy and lift me up from the gates of death, ¹⁴ that I may declare your praises in the gates of Daughter Zion, and there rejoice in your salvation.
	 ¹⁵ The nations have fallen into the pit they have dug; their feet are caught in the net they have hidden. ¹⁶ The LORD is known by his acts of justice; the wicked are ensnared by the work of their hands. ¹⁷ The wicked go down to the realm of the dead, all the nations that forget God.

¹⁸ But God will never forget the needy; the hope of the afflicted will never perish.

¹⁹ Arise, Lord, do not let mortals triumph; let the nations be judged in your presence.

²⁰ Strike them with terror, LORD; let the nations know they are only mortal.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Ben Hein A Reason to Sing

Call to Communion

Guidelines for the Reception of Communion

Redeemer welcomes all Christians who are willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation and who are members of congregations which proclaim the gospel to receive Communion with us. We will be coming forward for the distribution of Communion. Please use the hand sanitizer. You will receive the bread into your hands and take a cup from the tray. Clear cups (located in the interior rings) contain grape juice. Red cups (exterior ring of tray) contain wine. Wait to eat the bread and drink the wine until we all do so together, once we are back in our seats. Children who have been interviewed by the elders are able to share in Communion.

Communion is a time of connection with the Lord Jesus and with each other. Feel free to sing with the band during Communion. The ministry of prayer is also a way we live together as a community of believers and seekers. Please take the time to pray on your own, or with someone else in the pews (in a socially distanced way).

Prayers

Prayer for Guidance to Truth

God, I don't know how I feel about what I have heard today but I want to trust that you are good, that you are loving, and that you are just. I want to know if you are the true God. If you are there, would you guide my soul to the truest truth. I don't want to be tricked or believe a lie. I don't want to believe in something just to make me feel better. Please God, lead me to the truth.

Prayer of Belief and Repentance

Jesus, I believe that you are who you say you are: the Son of God and the savior of broken people like me. I need forgiveness. I need to be made new and to start over again. I now turn away from all I have been doing. I turn away from my self-centered life. I turn my whole heart toward you. I believe that when you were crucified, you took all of my evil and somehow you gave me all of your beauty. I invite your Holy Spirit to live in me. I do not want to live for myself any more. I want you to lead my life. I want to know you and to receive your love for me. Please teach me and protect me and guide me. I am yours. I ask these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Prayer of Doubt and Faith

God, I don't really believe all of this, but there is a part of my heart that knows there is truth and goodness here. I am confused by the fact that there are so many things that I don't understand or that make me angry about you. There are also so many things that fill my heart with hope and many things that draw me to you, and I want to put my trust in you. God, you say I can come to you and ask for anything, so if you are real, please give me the faith I need to believe. Give me the desire to continue to seek after you. Keep my heart from self-deception. Protect me from any evil misleading or binding spirits. Calm my fears. Soften my cynicism. Be patient with me, and if you are God, please don't let me go, but instead let me know that you are real. I have a little faith, help me in my doubt.

Closing Hymn

"Thy Mercy, My God"

All Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song, The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue; Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last, Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

> Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here; Sin would reduce me to utter despair; But, through Thy free goodness, my spirits revive, And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart, Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart; Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground, And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own, And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son; All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

words John Stocker, 1776; music Sandra McCracken; Same Old Dress Music, 2001

Doxology

All Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Community Life

Sunday Services, starting September 12 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Fall Preview Upcoming events and Sunday classes

Benediction

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