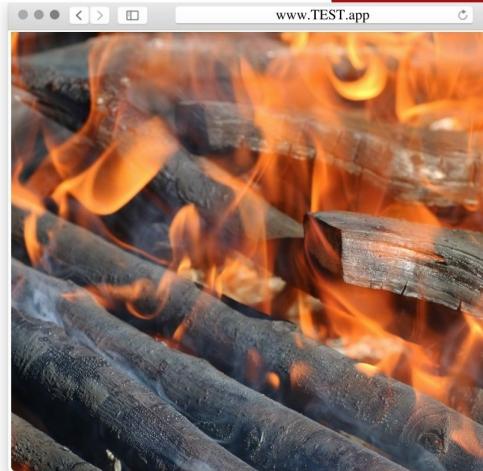


God provides a different SACRIFICE

Genesis 21:1-3, 22:1-17



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 19, 2021, 11am

Park Hill Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

3520 JFK Blvd. North Little Rock AR

501-753-9533; parkhillpres@gmail.com

Visit our website at parkhillpres.org

liturgy inspired by Rev. Teri Peterson and written for BibleWorm

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Children in worship
2. Survey Says...please fill out the survey

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God calls, and we answer —

All: here I am.

One: God calls us into partnership, so we come to learn-- how to work together.

Two: God calls us into the unknown, so we come to be equipped and guided.

All: Here I am.

One: God calls us to worship, so we bring our whole selves to praise and prayer.

Two: Here we are,

All: Here I am.

One: And we are committed to God's way.

Two: Let us praise God.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

“You Are My All And All”

Video

CALL TO CONFESSION and CONFESSION

Our God keeps promises, God gives life and a future with hope. And our God demands our allegiance above all else. If we say we have no other allegiances, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess together, saying “God of promises, **forgive our sins**”

Merciful God, we confess that we are not always prepared to give you our full allegiance before all others, for we often forget that real relationship has give and take, call and response — and you made us to live fully with you. God of promises, **forgive our sins.**

Forgive us when we believe that trust and loyalty must mean thoughtless obedience, and we deny our responsibility. God of promises, **forgive our sins.**

We confess that it is easier to sacrifice someone else than it is to hold together conflicting truths, and so we turn away from each another. God of promises, **forgive our sins.**

Yet you call us into community and ask us to commit to your way gracious blessing. Forgive us when we sacrifice our neighbors to our own rigid understanding of your will. Forgive us also Lord, and call us to account, when we sacrifice others for our own comfort and convenience. God of promises, **forgive our sins.**

Hear also these confessions of our silent hearts.

HYMN OF FORGIVENESS

“You Alone Can Rescue” (vs. 2 and Chorus)

You O Lord have made a way. The great divide You healed. For when our hearts were far away. Your love went further still. Yes Your love goes further still.

And You alone can rescue. You alone can save. You alone can lift us from the grave.
You came down to find us led us out of death. To You alone belongs the
highest praise. To You alone belongs the highest praise

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

READING

Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14 NASB Version

Then the LORD took note of Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had promised. ² So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the appointed time of which God had spoken to him. ³ Abraham named his son who was born to him, the son whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac.

Now it came about after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you." ³ So Abraham got up early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac; and he split wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham raised his eyes and saw the place from a distance. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey, and I and the boy will go over there; and we will worship and return to you." ⁶ And Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷ Isaac spoke to his father Abraham and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." And he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" ⁸ Abraham said, "God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

⁹ Then they came to the place of which God had told him; and Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood, and bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ And Abraham reached out with his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹² He said, "Do not reach out your hand against the boy, and do not do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." ¹³ Then Abraham raised

his eyes and looked, and behold, behind *him* was a ram caught in the thicket by its horns; and Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering in the place of his son. ¹⁴ And Abraham named that place The LORD Will Provide, as it is said to this day, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

SERMON

Rev. Marie Mainard-O'Connell

ANTHEM

"Here I Am, Lord"

*CREED

The Law of God: Exodus 20:1-17

hymnal pg 36

As our creed for the next several weeks, we will use the Law of God, as it was passed down to Moses on Mt. Sinai by the Lord, and is shared on page 36 of our hymnal. Let us responsibly remind ourselves of the law of God. The congregation will say every other command, beginning with the first.

God spoke all these words, saying, I am the Lord your God.

You shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol of anything in heaven above or on the earth below or in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down or worship them.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house, you shall not covet your neighbor's spouse, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Early in the morning, our songs and prayers rise for a world that seems to rarely reflect God's goodness, and so we pray, God of Mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Early in the morning, we see your glory in the changing light and the freshness of a new day. Early in the morning, we worry about things both in and outside our control. And so we pray for those whose lives are lived in the shadows of anxiety, for those who long to see another way yet do not have resources or energy for it. God of Mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We hold in your care those who have been sacrificed to our convenience, or apathy, or comfort. May they be enfolded by your love, and may they experience justice... and may our eyes be opened to our complicity and responsibility in creating a different world. God of Mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We lift up those desperately holding conflicting loves in their hearts and lives, working for all to be welcome. May they be strengthened by your compassion and encouraged by your Spirit of hope. God of Mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We offer our prayers for all those who are feeling trapped — in relationships, in limited understanding, in cycles of violence, in poverty. May they know your freedom, your peace, and abundance of your grace. God of Mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Early in the morning, while it is still dark, O God, when our hearts feel weighed down and the wonders of the world are hidden, still we trust you are at work, your love cannot be resisted, your presence goes alongside us. God of Mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Show us how to be your faithful people, to work alongside you for your vision for all creation. Here we are, your people, and you are our God, and we pray as Jesus taught us, saying...

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, they 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.**

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Boone Park Book Drive

GIVING OF OUR OFFERINGS AND TITHES

All that we have is a gift from God, whose promise is fulfilled every day. As a sign of our faith, God asks us to give of ourselves not only what is easy, but also what is meaningful and valuable. We return our gifts for the work of God's kingdom to be made known in this place, revealing God's goodness to all who will see. We offer ourselves and our gifts to God, in gratitude for God's faithfulness to us. May our offerings be a reminder of God's amazing generosity, and may they be for others a blessing that opens the way of abundant life. You may give by leaving an offering in the plate as you exit the sanctuary, or by giving online through our webpage.

We also want to acknowledge that some gifts are meant for those who worship here, and so if you find yourself in need—physical, mental, or spiritual—that you would share your need with our elder for Congregational Care, Mary Henry, or with our Pastor, as we are called to help one another in our need as well.

*Doxology “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” Video
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER

*HYMN OF SENDING “The God of Abraham Praise,” vs. 1, 2, & 4 #49
The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above, the Ancient of Eternal Days,
the God of love! The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed,
we bow before your holy name, forever blest.

Your spirit still flows free, high surging where it will. In prophet's word you spoke of old and you speak still. Established is your law, and changeless it shall stand,
deep writ upon the human heart by your strong hand.

You have eternal life implanted in the soul; your love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll. We praise you, living God! We praise your holy name:
the first, the last, beyond all thought, and still the same!

* PASSING THE PEACE, CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

“The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD's face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.”

*POSTLUDE