

Spirit – Hymn #319

Refrain:

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness
blow through the wilderness*

Calling and free.

Spirit, spirit of restlessness

Stir me from placidness

Wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, You called to the deep
Then you coaxed up the mountains, From the valleys of sleep,
And over the eons, you called to each thing,
“Awake from our slumbers, And rise on your wings.” –*Refrain*

You swept through the desert, You stung with the sand,
And you gifted your people, With a law and a land,
And when they were blinded with their idols and lies,
Then you spoke through your prophets, to open their eyes. - *Refrain*

You sang in a stable, You cried from a hill,
Then you whispered in silence, When the whole world was still,
And down in the city, you called once again,
When you blew through your people, on the rush of the wind. – *Refrain*

You call from tomorrow, You break ancient schemes,
From the bondage of sorrow, The captives dream dreams;
Our women see visions, Our men clear their eyes,
With bold new decisions, Your people arise. - *Refrain*



*We are a Christian community welcoming all
as we seek to grow in faith and serve others.*

Palisades Presbyterian Church

Palisades, New York 10964

October 29, 2006

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Palisades Presbyterian Church Welcomes You

On Reflection:

There is a placard posted on the front of the building
in which Ruby Son-Mae (Nguyen Thi Son) lived in for 1204 days.
In large letters it read: “Tình Thuong, Luong Tâm, Trách Nhiệm” -
“Loving Compassion, Conscience, Responsibility”

Every child comes with the message that God is not yet discouraged of [humanity].
- Rabindranath Tagore, Bengali poet.

Prelude

Church Bell

Introit *Little Ones* by Michael Shapiro

Call to Worship

Leader: We come here, bound to God and to one another.

All: We are a people called to God’s work in the world.

Leader: We give thanks to God for one another, for all those here and
for all those far away from here!

All: We stand in awe of a God of gentleness and welcoming.

Leader: By our voices and hearts and presence, we make known this God that
carries us forward and gives us hope and peace.

**All: We enter into the Mystery of God, willingly, hopefully, knowing it
is where our truest home is found.**

Leader: And we sing in praise, and generosity, and hospitality,

**All: Thanking God in gratitude for one another and the mission we
share, knowing the Spirit is with us, always! Amen.**

Hymn #315 *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

Baptism Ceremony for Ruby Son-Mae Sellinger

Minister:

Baptism is a time of intimacy.
It is a time when we recognize
that the God of love,
the God beyond all creeds with all their truths,
cares about each of us so much
that we are accompanied by God
every step of the way on our journey.

Baptism is a time when we recognize
that to be fully human,
we need two things—God and a community—
to love us and support us in our lives,
walking beside us, talking with us, teaching us,
guiding us, and marking our paces.

It’s a time when we commit ourselves,
as a community on behalf of a world,
to welcoming a child into our midst
and making the earth safe for her
so she will learn how to live without fear,
to live with love,
and walk uprightly in God’s ways,
welcoming the stranger,
working for God’s justice and peace.

**Invitation to Annemarie, James-Robert, Leah-Rose,
and Ruby Son Mae to come forward,
joined by Dr. Mary Lou Siefert and Stephen Van Dyk**

Minister to Annemarie and James-Robert:

Like all of us, in order to grow toward wholeness, toward grace and gracefulness, toward gentleness and faith, Ruby Son-Mae will need as much honesty, as much truth, and as much faithfulness as those near to her can give.

Therefore, as Ruby Son-Mae's parents, will you share yourselves as fully as you can with her, showing your daughter in word and in action where you find God in the world, and will you do what you can to help her find God for herself? Will you?

James-Robert and Annemarie: We will with God's help.

Minister to Godparents Dr. Mary Lou Siefert and Stephen VanDyk:

Will you be near these parents, supporting them, encouraging them, loving them, and will you join them in the awesome yet wondrous task of helping Ruby Son-Mae find God for herself? Will you?

Mary Lou and Stephen: We will with God's help.

Minister to the Gathered Family of Annemarie and James-Robert:

Will you do what family does best, embodying in your very being God's radical, unconditional love for Ruby Son-Mae? Will you?

Gathered Family: We will with God's help.

Minister to Leah-Rose and the Children of the Congregation:

Will you be there as sister and friends to Ruby Son-Mae, welcoming her into your group, helping her to be friends with you and God? Will you?

Leah-Rose and the Children: We will with God's help.

Minister to the Congregation:

Will we work to provide for Ruby Son-Mae and through her and all earth's children a family of faith, a family where among doubt and faith, laughter, and tears, prayers and shouts—she may find strength, warmth, and friends to trust dreams and visions with? If so, will you please stand?

Congregation: (When asked, please respond) **We will with God's help.**

Minister:

God of abundant grace and beauty,
this morning our prayer is for Ruby Son-Mae –
and through her, for all earth's children –
that in what we do as individuals
and what we do together as a community
we may never betray this child's trust,
dampen this child's hope,
or discourage this child's dreams.

Help us to provide a space and a community that embodies love
so that all children growing in our midst will be loving.

Help us to be kind so they will learn kindness.

Help us to be faithful

so they will learn how to embody faith
with their hearts, minds, hands, and feet.

Help us as a community to weave a tapestry of
love, tolerance, caring, and hospitality for all,
so that Ruby Son-Mae need never be afraid,
because she is supported
by a web of justice and love.

Dear God, bestow your grace and love on Ruby Son-Mae and
upon us, and upon all who dwell on this small planet of ours.
Give us each inner strength and peace
and patience for the journey ahead. Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism:

Minister to James-Robert and Annemarie:

By what name will you baptize this child?

James-Robert & Annemarie: Ruby Son-Mae

Minister:

Ruby Son-Mae, incarnation of earth, stardust and God's breath, I baptize you in the name of the God who created, who redeems you, who sustains you—One God, *Elohim*, like a father or a mother, like a son or a daughter, like a holy, leading, and ever-loving Spirit—all One God.

Minister to the Congregation

This is Ruby Son-Mae. If you are willing to try to make the world safe for her and for all earth's children, would you please stand and gently applaud her baptism and join us in singing *Spirit*, #319 in your hymnal or reprinted on the inside last page of this bulletin.

Welcome, Ruby Son-Mae!

Hymn #319 *Spirit*

Children: *Church School*

Prayer of Confession (In Unison)

From the time of Israel and long before
the LORD has been our God, One always and everlasting.
Like those from long before us and those who will follow,
we seek to serve God with all our heart.
Like the Exodus and desert of ancient times,
we know the desert in our own days,
both in our hearts and in hearts and lives others.
We sometimes find ourselves dominated by distractions
and selfish interests – and thrust into the wilderness again,
bottoming out, closing the distance between who we are
and who it is God calls us to be – standing:
face-to-face with what it means to be called Faithful.
Such are the moments of the deepest meaning
and of the greatest difficulty.
So, we pray and ask, having looked into the eyes of
Ruby Son-Mae and those who love her –
that we remember that we are all children,
and that we can live confidently in the promise of God,
an ancient promise of succor in all our days,
just as the rain was promised and comes to a parched land.
We come before you, Eternal One,
seeking the forgiveness and peace you have promised us,
admitting that we need you at all times,
so that we may always be there for the ones you send our way.
For it is in these ways we are called to honor and praise you. Amen.

Silent Confession

Choral Response

Declaration of Forgiveness

*** Hymn #322** *Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, Fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.*

Sharing the Peace

Announcements

Minute for Mission: *Youth for Seniors Thanksgiving Basket* - Sally Green

Prayer for Illumination

1st Reading Job 42: 1 – 6, 10 - 17

Anthem *Through the Eyes of a Child* Gene Grier and Lowell Everson

2nd Reading The Gospel of Mark: 10: 46 - 52

Sermon *Grace and Resistance*

Meditation

Offering our Gifts and Tithes

Doxology

*** Prayer of Dedication**

Offering our Joys and Concerns for Prayer

The Prayer of Jesus

*** Hymn #339** *Be Thou My Vision*

Charge and Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

**All that are able please stand*

Today's Readings

Job 42:1-6, 10-17

¹Then Job answered the LORD: ²"I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. ³'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. ⁴Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me.' ⁵I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; ⁶therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

¹⁰And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends; and the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before. ¹¹Then there came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and they ate bread with him in his house; they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the LORD had brought upon him; and each of them gave him a piece of money and a gold ring. ¹²The LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand donkeys. ¹³He also had seven sons and three daughters. ¹⁴He named the first Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch. ¹⁵In all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job's daughters; and their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers. ¹⁶After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children, and his children's children, four generations. ¹⁷And Job died, old and full of days.

Mark 10:46-52

⁴⁶They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." ⁵²Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.