

* **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.

We Offer to One Another a Sign of Peace

Announcements

Children's Message Carrie Adessi

Prayer for Illumination

1st Reading Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Anthem *A Gaelic Blessing* by John Rutter

2nd Reading The Gospel of Luke 4: 14-21

Sermon *Praying for Peace and Heart*

* **Hymn #394** *There Is a Balm in Gilead*

Offering our Gifts and Tithes

* **Hymn #592** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Offering our Joys and Concerns for Prayer

The Prayer of Jesus

* **Hymn #555** *Now Thank We All Our God*

Charge and Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

**All that are able please stand.*

Palisades Presbyterian Church

Palisades, New York 10964

January 21, 2007



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

Reflection

“Often, when I feel in an emotional desert, I call up something I saw when I was studying in Israel during a college summer. I was on a bus that was traveling through the Judean desert - tons of extreme heat and aridity, nothing but red dust and rocks, rocks, rocks as far as I could see. I’d gotten on the bus to go see Masada, but I began to wonder why I was giving up so much of my day to just travel through endless dust and mountains of bare rocks. And then we came around a hill, we were nearing Ein Gedi - and suddenly there was this lush greenness, palm trees, a huge waterfall with all kinds of beautiful flora growing around it. It was amazing to me - a wonder of God and modern technology combined. And I never saw it coming, right up to the minute we took that turn and it was upon us. I often try to hold onto that image when I’ve been in the desert for a while - that who knows but God has something wonderful and life-filled right around the corner waiting even though we can’t see it coming. And in the meanwhile, during the “bus ride” through the desert, maybe the sorting and sifting and ruminating is preparing the way for that something wonderful to be felt as even more wonderful.” - Susan DeGeorge

Palisades Presbyterian Church
The Palisades Presbyterian Church Welcomes You

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 21, 2007



Prelude

Church Bell

Introit *Show Me the Way, O Lord* by Jay Althouse

Call to Worship

Leader: The laws of God are perfect,

All: Written by the heart to revive our souls in love and peace.

Leader: These laws invite us to breathe and to live –
and for others to do the same,

**All: With a joy for the life of the Spirit that extends beyond
all that we know.**

Leader: Desire such things as these more than all else –

**All: For these laws contain all that once was, is now,
and shall ever be.**

Leader: The laws of God are perfect and simple and they are simple:

All: Love and then love more than you thought you could.

Leader: Here, in heart and Spirit and revived souls full with love -

**All: Let us raise our voices in worship, praise, and song with one
another – in love and peace. Amen.**

Unison Prayer

God of freedom,
Jesus came to bring good news,
to mend and to heal,
to release and to redeem,
and to proclaim your everlasting presence.

We confess that at times we forget his message,
become captive to things that separate us from you,
wondering suddenly why we feel bruised and broken.

We sometimes think the news is always less than good.
We are sure we are “stuck” where we are forever.

Then we hear and remember the Good News.
We become inspired again and are on fire.

The bondage of self is unleashed,
the Spirit comes and cleanses,
refreshes, and revitalizes.

We know you, again,
your promise,
forgiveness,
and healing.
Come to us now, please.
Amen.

Silent Confession

Choral Response

Declaration of Forgiveness

God's steadfast love extends to the heavens,
and reaches down to touch our hearts.
Thanks be to God who forgives and saves us all! Amen.

*Hymn #260 *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*