

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

Gospel Reading: Luke 9:51-62

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Palisades Presbyterian Church
Palisades, New York 10964
July 1, 2007



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

Reflection:

"Is evolution a theory, a system or a hypothesis? It is much more: it is a general condition to which all theories, all hypotheses, as systems must bow and which they must satisfy henceforth if they are to be thinkable and true. Evolution is a light illuminating all facts, a curve that all lines must follow."

"Christ is realized in evolution."

- Pere Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

The Palisades Presbyterian Church
Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 1, 2007

Welcome! Worship at Palisades Church begins with meditation. The music, the quote on the cover, the quiet of this place is all meant to encourage and deepen your own inner work. Thank you for entering the spirit of this place, this hour, by honoring the silence.

Prelude

Church Bell

Call to Worship

Leader: I cry aloud to God, that God may hear me. In the day of my trouble
I seek the Eternal One; in the night my hand is stretched out
tirelessly; my soul seeks to be comforted.

**People: I will call to mind the deeds of the Creator; I will remember the
stories and wonders of old. I will meditate on all these things and
more. I will continue to pray, without ceasing.**

Leader: Let us raise our hearts, voices, and song in praise.

People: Come, let us worship God together.

***Hymn 1** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Communion of the People All are welcome!

Prayer after Communion:

In Unison...

**O God, through this bread and this cup, you have made us one
with you and with each other. May the unity we find at this table
be a gift that we carry out into your suffering, divided world. Help
us to find strength in knowing that you, the God of peace and
justice, will always be with us. Amen.**

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 #535** *Go with Us, Lord* (as a canon)

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

**All that are able please stand.*

Dying on the cross, Jesus saves us from death, having changed the oppressor's tool of execution into a symbol of promise and eternal life. Alive with us today, we rely on him and his guidance.

Remembering all this and more, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate Jesus: his dying, rising, and his eternal presence among us.

With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you, broken in some ways as this bread will be, working in a fractured and hungry world, knowing that we are made whole in service to you. Great is the mystery of faith:

People:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Leader:

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these your gifts of bread and fruit of the vine, that this meal may be for us a communion in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Make us one together with him and all who share this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us in hope, and inspire us in steadfast love, so that we may serve as your faithful disciples all the days of our lives. We ask these things humbly, in the name of the one we serve.

People: Amen

Blessing of the Bread & Cup:

On the night of his arrest, Jesus took the bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, he took the cup, saying, "This is the cup of the new covenant, sealed in my blood, shed for you and for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the saving death of the risen Jesus, with us today.

Prayer of Confession (In Unison)

We pray to you, Almighty God; you who are worthy of all honor and praise. We worship you in wonder and thanksgiving; we honor you with exaltation and gratitude. For you are the Creator of all we are and have, you are the redeemer of life, and you are the source of all love and power. As those who claim your name and profess to have been touched by your saving hand, remind us daily, dear God, that you have called us to a higher standard of word and deed. Strengthen us, please, to magnify your name in all that we do and all that we are. When we feel inadequate to the task, remind us that you have not left us without an advocate, but have given your precious Holy Spirit to comfort, encourage, and strengthen us for the task of Christian living. Forgive us whatever wrongs we may have committed. Guide us in our daily living to seek out others and love them, as you have loved us. Call upon us, God, for we are willing to serve you all these days of our lives. Amen

Silent Confession

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.

Offering to One Another of a Sign of Peace

Announcements

Prayer for Illumination

1st Reading 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Quiet Reflection

2nd Reading Luke 9:51-62

Sermon *The Steadiness of Love*

Meditation

***Hymn 304** *Jesus Loves Me*



Celebration of Communion
All Are Welcome at this table!

Communion The Invitation to Jesus' Table

Leader: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

People: **They will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.**

Leader: According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at the table with his disciples, he took the bread, and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

People: **Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.**

Leader: This is that same table.

People: **All are invited to share this feast, which God has prepared.**

Great Thanksgiving:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, Our God

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader:

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give thanks and praise to the One who is with us always.

We recall that through the words of the prophets, the Spirit of God promised us a Redeemer, giving us hope for the day when justice would roll down like waters in a mighty stream. We rejoice now, for in Jesus Christ that day of rushing winds and waters is upon us and carrying us onward.

In thanksgiving and anticipation we praise you, and we join our voices with the choirs of angels, the prophets, the apostles, and the saints. We gather here in this sanctuary with the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name in the great mystery of your presence.

People Sing Hosanna!

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.

Leader:

You are holy, O God of Majesty, and blessed is Jesus the Christ. Born of Mary, Jesus *lives* with us. Eating with those who have found distance from God, he welcomes us all back into God's presence. As we guide children with his teachings, he teaches us, again. Visiting the sick as he did, he heals us in ways beyond the physical limitations of these bodies of ours.