

\* **Hymn #316**      Breathe on me, breath of God.  
Fill me with life anew.  
That I may love what Thou dost love  
and do what Thou wouldst do.

\* **We Offer One Another a Sign of Peace**

**Announcements**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Reading**      Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2

**Meditation**

**Gospel Reading**    Luke 12: 49 - 56

**Sermon**              *Simon says, "What?!"*

\* **Hymn #364**      *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*

**Offering our Gifts and Tithes**

**Offertory Music**

\* **Doxology #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**

**Joys and Concerns**

**The Prayer of Jesus**

\* **Hymn #526**      *For All the Saints*

\* **Charge and Blessing**

**Postlude**

*\*All that are able please stand.*

## **Palisades Presbyterian Church**

Palisades, New York 10964

August 19, 2007

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



*Thought as we prepare for worship:*

“Our life is a faint tracing on the surface of mystery, like the idle, curved tunnels of leaf miners on the face of a leaf. We must somehow take a wider view, look at the whole landscape, really see it, and describe what’s going on here. Then we can at least wail the right question into the swaddling band of darkness, or, if it comes to that, choir the proper praise. ”

— Annie Dillard, *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*

**The Palisades Presbyterian Church**  
***Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time***  
August 19, 2007

**Welcome!** Worship at Palisades Presbyterian 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.

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**Prelude**

**Church Bell**

\* **Invitation to Worship** (Downtown United Presbyterian Church, Rochester)

Leader: In the beginning was God,  
In the beginning the source of all that is.

**People: In the beginning**

**God yearning,**

**God moaning,**

**God laboring,**

**God giving birth,**

**God rejoicing.**

**Therefore, let us worship God together!**

\* **Hymn #127**      *Come, O Spirit*

**Unison Prayer**

O God of endless surprises, sometimes we would prefer that you be a little more predictable and not quite so surprising! If only your ways were not so different from ours and your thoughts so much higher than ours! Then the reminders of the distance between you and us might not be as unsettling, as they sometimes are.

There is so much that all too often makes no sense in this world, a world for which we are committed to love, peace, justice. The tasks are so vast, tangled, and demanding – and we desperately try to manage them – as if such a thing were in our power to do. We take the pain, suffering, and violence personally and sometimes allow it to take us further from you, as we wonder, “How could you allow such things?!”

Yet, you know that such responses are from frustration and the lack of power to change things, as if you chose us to be the architects of your creation. We forget that what you chose for us was not a task, but the call to a response in community: to be faithful, persistent, and loving – no matter what. Yes, you say, no matter what.

Please guide us and help us to come together in prayer and trust in you. Help us to see you and your healing ways, especially around the most difficult of days. We really do care, even when we are so far from understanding how wrong things can sometimes be.

We come to you in faith, with longing hearts in silence for you to touch us in the ways of your love and embrace.

**Silent Personal Reflection**

**Assurance of God's Presence and Embrace**