

### Jeremiah 2:4-13

<sup>4</sup>Hear the word of God O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.  
<sup>5</sup>Thus says God: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? <sup>6</sup>They did not say, "Where is the God who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" <sup>7</sup>I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. <sup>8</sup>The priests did not say, "Where is God?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore once more I accuse you, says God, and I accuse your children's children.  
<sup>10</sup>Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. <sup>11</sup>Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. <sup>12</sup>Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says our God, <sup>13</sup>for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

### Luke 14:1, 7-14

<sup>1</sup>On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

<sup>7</sup>When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable.  
<sup>8</sup>"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup>and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place', and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup>For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

<sup>12</sup>He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup>And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Palisades Presbyterian Church  
Palisades, New York 10964  
September 2, 2007



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

### *Reflection:*

The love of Yahweh for Israel is most clearly expressed in a passage which comes from near the end of Jeremiah's career:

"I have loved you with an everlasting love;  
therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you."

- YHWH's words in Jeremiah 31:3

**The Palisades Presbyterian Church**  
***Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time***  
September 2, 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.

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**Prelude**      *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*    Arr. By Robert Thygerson  
Tune: ASSAM, an anonymous Indian Melody

**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**

**Offertory Music:**      *Upon Thy Table Lord*      Arr. By Dale Wood  
Tune: *Distress*, Southern Harmony, 1839

**\*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*

**Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**      *The Awakening*      Edward Broughton

*\*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

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading**          Jeremiah 2: 4-13

## Quiet Reflection

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**          Luke 14:1, 7 - 14

**Sermon**                  *With Built-in Forgetters*

## A Moment for Meditation

**\*Hymn**                  *Blessed Assurance*



## 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.