




PRESBYTERY
of West Virginia

*Rivers
Cluster*



September 26th, 2021

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

All Music by Rachel Noe Maynard

Prayers from Feasting on The Word: Worship Companion (with additions)

Pastor's Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship

If it had not been for God, who was on our side, we would have fallen prey to those who want to harm us; we would have been swept away by sadness and fear.

Blessed be the Lord, our protector!

God has broken the snare that took away our freedom.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Blessed be God's holy name!

Prayer of Invocation and Adoration

God of courage, help us to believe that you are still present and active in this world and that your grace remains as an everlasting force in our lives. In Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Hymn -The Church's One Foundation V. 1, 2, 4, 5

Call To Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of wisdom, forgive our foolishness. We desire what we do not need and corrupt our relationships with envy. You urge us to gentleness, but we stir up conflict. Give us your grace, that we may harvest righteousness and peace, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Teacher, we pray.

Assurance of Pardon

And let all God's people say. **Amen.**

Friends believe the Good News of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Gloria Patri

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:38-50

³⁸John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹"For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Sermon- "Salt"

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Affirmation of Faith-The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord;

Who was conceived by the holy ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the holy ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn- Fight the Good Fight

Charge and Blessing

Gilbert Presbyterian Church
PO Box 496
Gilbert, WV 25621

Highland Presbyterian Church
115 Pigeonroost Rd
Canada, KY 41519

1st Presbyterian Church of Williamson
29 West Sixth Avenue
Williamson, WV 25661

1st Presbyterian Church of Logan
622 Stratton St.
Logan WV, 25601

THE CHURCH

The Church's One Foundation 321

1 The chur-ch's one foun-da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord.
2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op-pressed,
4 Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war,
5 Yet she on earth has un - ion with God, the Three in One,

She is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis-tressed,
she waits the con-sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more:
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won:

From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride.
One ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we,

With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
like them, the meek and low - ly, may live e - ter - nal - ly.

This hymn was one of twelve written by an English curate to affirm the articles of the Apostles' Creed with biblical allusions such as 1 Corinthians 3:11 here. Though not created for this text, the tune was joined to it in 1868, and the two have been inseparable ever since.

Fight the Good Fight 846

1 Fight the good fight with all thy might.
 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace;
 3 Cast care a-side; lean on thy guide.
 4 Faint not nor fear: God's arms are near.

Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right.
 lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face.
 God's bound-less mer-cy will pro-vide.
 God chang-eth not, and thou art dear.

Lay hold on life, and it shall be
 Life with its way be-fore us lies;
 Trust, and thy trust-ing soul shall prove
 On-ly be-lieve, and thou shalt see

thy joy and crown e-ter-nal-ly.
 Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.
 Christ is its life, and Christ its love.
 that Christ is all in all to thee.

The opening phrase here (based on 1 Timothy 6:12) is not a military image but an athletic one, from a Greek verb meaning "struggle" or "grapple" or "wrestle." The sports context continues in later stanzas reflecting the experience of a runner (recalling Hebrews 12:1-2).