



Pilgrim Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
November 21, 2021

Music streamed in today's service

We Gather Together - arr. Neil Harmon

"The Lord's Prayer"*

A Hymn Of Thanksgiving by Roger Emerson

Hymn #425 NCH**

Thanksgiving - Clifford DeMarest

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Today's service will be recorded.

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Prelude

We Gather Together - arr. Neil Harmon

Dot Bowe

Greeting and Announcements

Rev. Reebee Girash

Passing of the Peace

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

Call to Worship (Psalm 100)

Ed Bond

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth!

All: Worship God with gladness; come into God's presence with singing!

One: Know that the Lord who made us is God,

All: And we are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture.

One: God is good. God's steadfast love endures for ever,

All: God is faithful to all generations.

Opening Prayer

**Glorious God,
your generosity floods the world with goodness
and you shower creation with abundance.
Awaken in us a hunger for food to satisfy both body and heart,
that in the miracle of being fed
we may be empowered to feed the hungry in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Scripture Readings from Genesis 32 and 33

Ed Bond

32:3 Jacob sent messengers ahead of him to his brother Esau in the land of Seir, the country of Edom.
4 He instructed them: “This is what you are to say to my lord Esau: ‘Your servant Jacob says, I have been staying with Laban and have remained there till now. 5 I have cattle and donkeys, sheep and goats, male and female servants. Now I am sending this message to my lord, that I may find favor in your eyes.’”

6 When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, “We went to your brother Esau, and now he is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him.”

9 Then Jacob prayed, “O God of my father Abraham, God of my father Isaac, Lord, you who said to me, ‘Go back to your country and your relatives, and I will make you prosper,’ 10 I am unworthy of all the kindness and faithfulness you have shown your servant. I had only my staff when I crossed this Jordan, but now I have become two camps. 11 Save me, I pray, from the hand of my brother Esau, for I am afraid he will come and attack me, and also the mothers with their children. 12 But you have said, ‘I will surely make you prosper and will make your descendants like the sand of the sea, which cannot be counted.’”

13 He spent the night there, and from what he had with him he selected a gift for his brother Esau: 14 two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams, 15 thirty female camels with their young, forty cows and ten bulls, and twenty female donkeys and ten male donkeys. 16 He put them in the care of his servants, each herd by itself, and said to his servants, “Go ahead of me, and keep some space between the herds.”

17 He instructed the one in the lead: “When my brother Esau meets you and asks, ‘Who do you belong to, and where are you going, and who owns all these animals in front of you?’ 18 then you are to say, ‘They belong to your servant Jacob. They are a gift sent to my lord Esau, and he is coming behind us.’”

33:1 Jacob looked up and there was Esau, coming with his four hundred men; so he divided the children among Leah, Rachel and the two female servants. 2 He put the female servants and their children in front, Leah and her children next, and Rachel and Joseph in the rear. 3 He himself went on ahead and bowed down to the ground seven times as he approached his brother.

4 But Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him; he threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. And they wept.

5 Then Esau looked up and saw the women and children. “Who are these with you?” he asked. Jacob answered, “They are the children God has graciously given your servant.”

6 Then the female servants and their children approached and bowed down. 7 Next, Leah and her children came and bowed down. Last of all came Joseph and Rachel, and they too bowed down.

8 Esau asked, “What’s the meaning of all these flocks and herds I met?” “To find favor in your eyes, my lord,” he said.

9 But Esau said, “I already have plenty, my brother. Keep what you have for yourself.”

10 “No, please!” said Jacob. “If I have found favor in your eyes, accept this gift from me. For to see your face is like seeing the face of God, now that you have received me favorably. 11 Please accept the present that was brought to you, for God has been gracious to me and I have all I need.” And because Jacob insisted, Esau accepted it.

12 Then Esau said, “Let us be on our way; I’ll accompany you.”

13 But Jacob said to him, “My lord knows that the children are tender and that I must care for the ewes and cows that are nursing their young. If they are driven hard just one day, all the animals will die. 14 So let my lord go on ahead of his servant, while I move along slowly at the pace of the flocks and herds before me and the pace of the children, until I come to my lord in Seir.”

15 Esau said, “Then let me leave some of my men with you.” “But why do that?” Jacob asked. “Just let me find favor in the eyes of my lord.”

16 So that day Esau started on his way back to Seir. 17 Jacob, however, went to Sukkoth, where he built a place for himself and made shelters for his livestock. That is why the place is called Sukkoth.

One: Here ends the reading. Hear what the Spirit of God is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Rev. Reebee Girash

Prayers of the People Rev. Reebee Girash

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Reebee Girash

The Lord's Prayer* - Musical interpretation setting by Karin Simmons and Jennifer Martin
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Invitation to the Offering Rev. Reebee Girash

Offertory A Hymn Of Thanksgiving by Roger Emerson Pilgrim Church Choir

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication Rev. Reebee Girash

With thanksgiving, we bring these gifts before you, O God. From you we have received an abundance of love, wisdom, courage and hope. And from you, we have received the greatest gift: your son. In his name, we offer these gifts to neighbors near and far. Amen.

*Hymn For the Fruit of All Creation - NCH#425**

For the Fruit of All Creation

425

Fred Pratt Green, 1970

1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
 For God's gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
 For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
 Future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

2 In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.
 In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.
 In our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
 In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For God's gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

3 For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
 For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
 For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
 Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Benediction

Rev. Reebee Girash

Postlude

Thanksgiving - Clifford DeMarest

Dot Bowe

A special thank you to **Ed Bond** for being our liturgist today and to **Nick Zorn** for hosting our Zoom service. Also, a special thanks to **Sam Boehm, Elena Snow-Evrard,** and **Alan Snow** for their wonderful musical contributions.

Source Notes: The Opening Prayer is from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers.

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Sunday Worship 10:30 am