

Announcements

- Children and youth are invited to Faith Formation class following the Passing of the Peace. We also have a hugging room at the back of the sanctuary for parents with young children to use as desired.
- Coffee and Conversation with Pastor Jim. Tuesdays at 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. in Jim's office. All are welcome to come.
- Join our hybrid bible study every Wednesday at 12:00 p.m. in the Common Room. Contact Pastor Jim if you would like to receive a Zoom link to join virtually.
- Toddler Time, every Friday in the courtyard at 10:00 a.m. for children 0-5 years and a caregiver. If you would like to volunteer, we would love your help. To register, email cyf@goletapres.org.
- IVYP monthly food distribution at GPC! You are invited to volunteer at 9:00 a.m. to help sort food, distribution begins at 11:30 a.m. Contact Pastor Jim for more information.

GOLETA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 14, 2023

PRELUDE

“Morning Hymn Suite”

Wilbur Held

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Jim Pazan

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *from Psalm 66:8-20*

Jeannie Cavender, CRE

Leader: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,

People: who has kept us among the living and has not let our feet slip.

Leader: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

People: We went through fire and through water;

Leader: yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

People: Come and hear, all you who fear God, I will tell what he has done for me.

Leader: I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue.

People: I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

Leader: But truly God has listened; he has heard the words of my prayer.

People: Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer

All: or removed his steadfast love from me.

***HYMN OF PRAISE #476** “O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jeannie Cavender, CRE

Gracious God, we open our hearts to you this day and offer the truth of our lives.

The fear that stifles us, the ignorance that blinds us, the doubt that plagues us.

Help us find courage in unlikely places, to see the world with new eyes, to move

to places where love is needed, and to have faith that you are with us. We pray

in Jesus' name, Amen.

*please rise in body or spirit

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Leader: Hear the Good News – We are forgiven, set free to go out into the world and be hopeful people of God.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Amen!

ANTHEM “Praise the Name of the Lord” P. Ivanoff

PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: May the Peace of Christ be with you

People: And also with you

***SONG OF PREPARATION** “Hand it Over” Keb’ Mo’

Spirit Pulse Praise Band; Don Davis, Kris Warner, Janet Votaw, Ann Lawler

SCRIPTURE READING

ACTS 17:22-34

²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’ ²⁹ Since we are God’s offspring,

we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.” ³² When they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some scoffed; but others said, “We will hear you again about this.” ³³ At that point Paul left them. ³⁴ But some of them joined him and became believers, including Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

MESSAGE “Knowing the Unknown” Rev. Jim Pazan

HYMN OF RESPONSE #280 “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD “If You Love Me, Keep My Commandments” Eugene Butler

***DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;*

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER Jeannie Cavender, CRE

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***CLOSING SONGS #417** “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

***BENEDICTION** Rev. Jim Pazan

Postlude “Festive Allego” Johann Sebastian Bach

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*please rise in body or spirit