



Gustave Dore, 1855

Sunday, July 30, 2023

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak."

But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." The man asked him, "What is your name?" "Jacob," he answered. Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome."

Jacob said, "Please tell me your name." But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?" Then he blessed him there. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared."

The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip.

- *CONNECTING YOU WITH CHRIST AND COMMUNITY* -

Greeters: Eileen & Harry Flick, Sara Woodbury & Bob Ganse, Pam McCartney, Donna Kiser

Ushers: Michel Gibeault, Bill Sherriff, Sara Shank, John Wolfe

The white rose recognizes and bears witness to the life and memory of Zitella "Zit" Buzby

The Chancel Flowers are Presented By:

Vickie Kutz, in memory of James Goddard

Gathering in God's Name

Chimes

Prelude

Welcome & Ministry Highlights

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Please sign and pass the "Friendship Pad" down the pew.

At the end of the row, pass it back so that we can greet one another by name after the service.

* Call to Worship

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Leader: Look around. What wonders we behold!

People: **We see others, gathered here to worship and praise God.**

Leader: Each person here is a unique, beloved creation of God.

People: **Each person here is given special gifts and talents by God.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God who has blessed us in so many ways.

All: Let us praise God.

* Opening Hymn #487

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Eternal and Glorious God, Your grace calls us toward growth and service in You. Yet today we acknowledge the many times we have forgotten Your mercy and rejected Your love.

Forgive us when we sin against You through our thoughts, words, and deeds. Forgive us when we neglect to think, speak, and do as You desire. Renew and restore us, O God. Help us to run the race You put before us with perseverance, patience, and passion. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison 572

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Leader: Paul writes, "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." This is our assurance this day and every day. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Leader: As we are forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ Jesus, let us be reconciled to one another. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

* Gloria Patri 579

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Children ages 4 and older are invited to REMAIN with their grown-ups in service, today. Activity bags are available in the gathering area of the children's classrooms. The nursery is open for infants through age three.

Reception of New Members Jeffrey and Abigail Martin

Baptism Caleb Alexander Martin Rev. Allison Beaulieu
Son of Jeffrey and Abigail Martin

Hymn #492 "Baptized In Water"

Vocal Solo "O Rest in the Lord" by F. Mendelssohn Laura Aines

Scripture Readings Genesis 32:22-31

Message **"Wrestling with the Divine"** Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Responding to God's Word

Prayers of the People, Lord's Prayer Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

**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.**

Invitation to the Offering Rev. Allison Beaulieu
Wooden offering boxes are located in the narthex

Going in God's Name

* Closing Hymn #383 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

* Charge and Benediction Rev. Allison Beaulieu

* Congregational Response
**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel His mighty power and His grace;
I can hear the brush of angels' wings; I see glory in each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

Postlude
* PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT

**MUSIC: DR. PAUL THORLAKSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
JONATHAN LEFEVER, ORGANIST
A/V: MARK ANDERSON, GARRETT KOLEDA, GUS BEAULIEU**

A description of the stained Chancel window can be found in the front of the hymnal.
FM sound devices are available. Please ask an usher for your own personal receiver.

Cell Phones should be silenced during the worship service.

Video Recordings of the service can be found on the Highland website at www.HighlandPC.org

In the event of an emergency, please refer to the card in the pew racks for evacuation and re-assembly information.