**Gerrardstown Presbyterian Church Worship Service**

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost June 17, 2018**

**~*We Gather~***

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements, Joys and Concerns of the Church**

Please sign the red Friendship pad in the pew and pass along to others.

**Greetings:** Stand and greet each other as music plays please take your seats to sing Gathering Song

**Gathering Song** #300 We Are One in the Spirit (vs. 3)

**Prayer for the day**

**\*Call to Worship**  *(Adapted from Ps. 92:1-2, 11-15 The Message)*

One: What a beautiful thing, to give thanks, to sing an anthem to you, the High God!

**All: To announce your love each daybreak, sing your faithful presence all through the night,**

One: My ears are filled with the sounds of promise: good people will prosper like palm trees, grow tall like Lebanon cedars; transplanted to God’s courtyard,

**All: They’ll grow tall in the presence of God, lithe and green, virile still in old age. Such witnesses to upright God!**

**\*Hymn of Praise**#682 It Is Good to Sing Your Praises

**~*We Confess our Sin and Receive Pardon*~**

**Call to Reconciliation:** When we find thistles and thorns in our lives, we need to come to our Father God and confess our prickliness and pain.

**Prayer of Forgiveness:** *(Unison)* **Holy Father, who created us and cares for us, we are aware that we don’t always blossom with the fruit of love and mercy that you offer us. Often our responses can be prickly and our judgments harsh. We realize we need your pruning and pairing back…** *(silent prayer)*

**Assurance of Pardon:** Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. *(Jn. 15:2 NRS)*

**All: Praise God! Through Jesus, the Vine we receive life and forgiveness.**

**\*Gloria Patri** #581

***~We Hear a Word from the Lord~***

**Children’s Message- Sharing VBS Songs and Experiences**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Scripture Lesson:** Genesis 3

Leader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon:** Gardening with God: God’s Planting Continues

**Second Scripture Lesson:** John 15:1-11

***~We Seal the Word in the Sacraments~***

**\*Communion Hymn** #533 In the Singing

**Words of Institution**

**Sharing the Bread and Cup**

***~We Respond in Joyful Service~***

**Prayers of Intercession**

**Call to Offering**

**Offertory**

**\*Doxology**

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**\*Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles Creed p.35

***~We Go Forth to Serve*~**

**\*Hymn of Service** #39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Benediction Response** #39 Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great Is they faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

**\*Postlude**

**Adam Oester, Lay Leader**

**Beverly Hughes, Organist**

**Rev. Karen Greenawalt, Pastor**

**\*Please stand as you are able**

**Welcome to Gerrardstown Presbyterian Church. We are glad you are here!** If you are a first time guest, please fill out the Red Friendship pads in the pew. We invite you to prayerfully consider GPC a place to call home. If you would like to become a member please talk to Pastor Karen.

**Children are a vital part of our congregation.** Each Sunday we offer Sunday school at 9:45am downstairs, a Children’s Message in worship and Children’s Church downstairs after the Children’s Message. Child care is also available in the nursery downstairs for all those 2 years and younger.

**Coffee and Conversations** all are welcome! We meet at 9:45am in Gathering Room. We are on Chapter 18 of the Gospel of Luke and are using N.T. Wright’s *Luke for Everyone* for our discussion*.*

**Upcoming Events- Mark your Calendars!**

**Sat. June 23 – 8am-4pm - Church Yard Sale!**

**Tues. June 26- Community Dinner** 4:30pm-6:30pm in Fellowship Hall

**NO WORSHIP SERVICE HERE IN THE CHURCH BUILDINGS HERE SUNDAY AUGUST 12,** instead we will enjoy a Worshipful Retreat and Potluck Lunch at Bob and Bev Hughes’ home in Shepherdstown.

**HELP! If you know anyone in need of help with addiction or mental illness, WV has a 24 hour hotline 1-844-HELP4WV. The Suicide Prevention Lifeline number is 1-800-273-8255. If you know anyone who is having trouble paying a light bill, rent or needs mortgage help and other social services can be found by calling 211.**

**Summer Devotional Gardening with God**

**Week 3 The Secret Garden**

**Scripture passages: Leviticus 19:19; Eccl. 11:6 NRS; Matthew 13:24-43**

**Questions to ponder:**

**Tares are weeds that resemble wheat but whose seed us black and poisonous (Thayer and Lou Nida Lexicons). What is Jesus suggesting by saying we should not gather the weeds but let then grow up alongside the wheat? What does that mean in our lives today? How do you tell a weed from the wheat? Are we to tend the weeds along with the wheat? Are we to love the weeds as Jesus loved us?**

**The yeast at times in scripture means evil intentions or sinfulness. What do you think the yeast in this passage means?**

**Why would Jesus have the mustard seed grow so much bigger than a mustard seed plant usually grows?**

**Prayer: Loving Father, Jesus offers us an unusual look at your Kingdom in these parables. The weeds and the wheat together, the yeast and the mustard seed. We wonder what these mean for your church. Will you help us to love and shine your light not only to the world but to all the weeds among us? We need your insights to understand what the yeast and the mustard seed mean. May you be glorified in this your Kingdom as we live seeking to be wheat among the weeds.**

**To Contact Pastor Karen** please call the church office 304-229-2316 or her cell 407-619-2821. The church email is gerrardstpc@gmail.com , our webpage is http://gerrardstownpc.com/ . Like us on Facebook at Gerrardstown Presbyterian Church Life