



PROPER 14
8.7.2022
Belovedness

Prelude – the Band

Orientation – Jim Hamilton

Meditation – the Band

“If a situation cannot be changed, there is no point in worrying about it. If it can be changed, then there is no need to worry about it either, we should simply go about changing it.”

Dalai Lama XIV

Song – I Want to be Ready – Ben Harper

sung for you

How I am strong
is to know what makes me weak
how I am found
is to know just whom I seek
the gift of a blessing
the burden of a sin
turn to him

is all within his plan
and I know this shall be
my journey home

I want to be ready
ready to put on
my long white robe

I want to be ready
ready to put on
my long white robe

Covet no silver
covet no gold
reach your empty
hands for him to hold
up in his kingdom
glory shall be proclaimed
sing the song
and praise his name

Nailed across
from hand to hand
for the sin
of woman and man
all upon his earth

Welcome

Mr. Freckles & Kid’s Breakout

**God be in my head
God be in my words
God be in my heart
God be in my hands
God be in my whole self**

Peace – Jim

Reading One – Life of the Beloved – Henri Nouwen

That soft, gentle voice that calls me the Beloved has come to me in countless ways. My parents, friends, teachers, students and the many strangers who crossed my path have all sounded that voice in different tones. I have been cared for by many with much tenderness and gentleness. I have been taught and instructed with much patience and perseverance. I have been encouraged to keep going when I was ready to give up and was stimulated to try again when I failed. I have been rewarded and praised for success...but, somehow, all of these signs of love were not sufficient to convince me that I was Beloved. Beneath all my seemingly strong self-confidence there remained the question, "If all those who shower me with so much attention could see me and know me in my innermost self, would they still love me?" That agonizing question, rooted in my inner shadow, kept persecuting me and made me run away from the very place where that quiet voice calling me the Beloved could be heard.

...

We are the Beloved. We are intimately loved long before our parents, teachers, spouses, children and friends loved or wounded us. That's the truth of our lives. That's the truth I want you to claim for yourself. That's the truth spoken by the voice that says, "You are my Beloved."

Listening to that voice with great inner attentiveness, I hear at my center words that say: "I have called you by name, from the very beginning. You are mine and I am yours. You are my Beloved, on you my favor rests. I have molded you in the depths of the earth and knitted you together in your mother's womb. I have carved you in the palms of my hands and hidden you in the shadow of my embrace. I look at you with infinite tenderness and care for you with a care more intimate than that of a mother for her child. I have counted every hair on your head and guided you at every step. Wherever you go, I go with you, and wherever you rest, I keep watch. I will give you food that will satisfy all your hunger and drink that will quench your thirst. I will not hide my face from you. You know me as your own as I know you as my own. You belong to me. I am your father, your mother, your brother, your sister, your lover and your spouse...yes, even your child...wherever you are I will be. Nothing will ever separate us. We are one."

Psalm 50:1-8, 23-24 – the Band

learn and sing

**The God, the god of gods,
the god of gods has spoken.**

The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken;
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,
God reveals himself in glory.

**The God, the god of gods,
the god of gods has spoken.**

Our God will come and will not keep silence;
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging storm.

**The God, the god of gods,
the god of gods has spoken.**

He calls the heavens and the earth from above
to witness the judgment of his people.
"Gather before me my loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."
Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause;

for God himself is judge.

**The God, the god of gods,
the god of gods has spoken.**

Hear, O my people, and I will speak: "O Israel, I will bear witness against you;
for I am God, your God.

I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices;
your offerings are always before me.

Consider this well, you who forget God,
lest I rend you and there be none to deliver you.

Whoever offers me the sacrifice of thanksgiving honors me;
but to those who keep in my way will I show the salvation of God."

**The God, the god of gods,
the god of gods has spoken.**

Prayers of the People – Amy

Song – Preparedness – the bird and the bee – the Band

learn and sing

Do you know who I am
I'm alive you understand, alive, alive, alive

Check your head I heard a sound
Make certain no one's around
A sound, a sound, a sound

Do you know where you're from
Turn around your crumbs are gone around, around, around
Are you lost, are you not there, are you shut down
Are you prepared, shut down, shut down, shut down

Are you prepared for the atom bomb,
Are you prepared for my aching arms
Are you prepared, are you prepared

Are you prepared for serenity,
Are you prepared to disagree
Are you prepared, are you prepared for me

Do you know who I am
I'm alive you understand, alive, alive, alive

Reading Two – Luke 12:32-40 – Amy

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Song – I Am Laying Up My Treasure – the Band

learn and sing

**I am laying up my treasure
Where no moth or rust can blight
Joy and peace will crown my labor,
As I triumph in the right.**

**My reward is ever with me,
For the law of growth is sure;
Ever sowing to the spirit
Will eternal life secure.**

**As the sowing, so the harvest,
Each season in its place
Will yield abundant fruitage,
True righteousness and grace.**

**Then let me lay up treasure
Beyond the lapse of time,
In that home of heav'nly beauty
Which will be forever mine.**

A Discussion – Jim

Song – Dweller on the Threshold – the Band

learn and sing

**I'm a dweller on the threshold and I'm waiting at the door
And I'm standing in the darkness I don't want to wait no more
I have seen without perceiving I have been another man
Let me pierce the realm of glamour
So I know just what I am**

**I'm a dweller on the threshold and I'm waiting at the door
And I'm standing in the darkness
I don't want to wait no more
Feel the angel of the present in the mighty crystal fire**

**Lift me up, consume my darkness, let me travel even higher
I'm a dweller on the threshold as I cross the burning ground
Let me go down to the water, watch the great illusion drown**

I'm a dweller on the threshold and I'm waiting at the door
And I'm standing in the darkness
I don't want to wait no more
I'm gonna turn and face the music The music of the spheres
Lift me up, consume my darkness When the midnight disappears

I will walk out of the darkness
And I'll walk into the light
And I'll sing the song of ages
And the dawn will end the night
I'm a dweller on the threshold
And I'm waiting at the door
And I'm standing in the darkness
I don't want to wait no more

I'm a dweller on the threshold
And I cross some burning ground
And I'll go down to the water
Let the great illusion drown
I'm a dweller on the threshold And I'm waiting at the door
And I'm standing in the darkness I don't want to wait no more

I'm a dweller on the threshold
Dweller on the threshold
I'm a dweller on the threshold
Dweller on the threshold

Offering Sentence

“Every time you listen with great attentiveness to the voice that calls you the Beloved, you will discover within yourself a desire to hear that voice longer and more deeply. It is like discovering a well in the desert. Once you have touched wet ground, you want to dig deeper.”
Henri Nouwen

Eucharist and Post Communion Prayer – Amy

All are welcome at the Eucharistic table. If you do not wish to partake, feel free to take this time for meditation and personal reflection.

Post Eucharistic Prayer and Blessing – Amy

Announcements and Action – Jim

Song – Keep Your Lamps – the Band

learn and sing

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.

Children don't get weary

**Children don't get weary
Children don't get weary
'til your work is done**

**Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.**

**Christian, journey soon be over,
Christian, journey soon be over,
Christian, journey soon be over,
The time is drawing nigh**

**Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.**

**Children don't get weary
Children don't get weary
Children don't get weary
'til your work is done**

**Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.**

**Christian, journey soon be over,
Christian, journey soon be over,
Christian, journey soon be over,
The time is drawing nigh**

**Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.**

Dismissal – Jim
