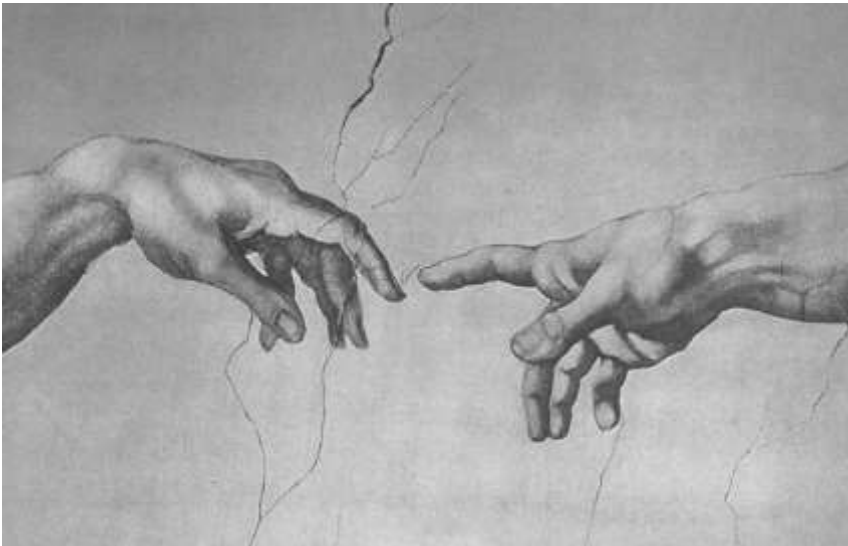


WELCOME TO...

The Presbyterian Church of
Saint David

May 18, 2014



THE HAND OF GOD

Gathering: *Holy God, we come together to worship you, and together we say: “I am trusting you... you are my God! My future is in your hands...”* **Reliable God, help us to reconcile our plans and dreams with reality. Regardless of circumstances, our Caring God is here with us now.** *Sustaining God, “...Let your favour shine on your servants ...today, and “...in our unfailing love, save us...” from all that threatens our peace. Bright Light of God, shine your radiance and warmth into our hearts and minds, that we may offer you our thanks, prayers and praise. Amen. *(Joan Stott)**

Hymn: Take my life (vs. 1-2)

637

Confession: *Lord God, I have sinned against you; I have done evil in your sight. I am sorry and repent.*

Have mercy on me according to your love. Wash away my wrongdoing and cleanse me from my sin. Renew a right spirit within me and restore the joy of your salvation, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

Hymn: Take my life (vs. 3-4)

637

Assurance of Pardon: *Gracious God, because I have been forgiven so much, would you bring to mind one person that I need to forgive today?*

Did someone say, do, or not do something that was hurtful to me today, and I need to forgive them?

Or maybe it's a system or culture or rule that I deeply resent.

Or a disappointment that follows me around. O God, who do I need to forgive today? Open my hand and my heart to the other.

Hymn: Take my life (vs. 5-6)

637

Commitment to new life: **God, I forgive them. Help me to let it go. I release them, I give them to you by the power and grace of Your son, Jesus Christ. I ask the same for myself.**

Scripture: Psalm 31 In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me. Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a

strong fortress to save me. *You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me, take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge. Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.*

“My times [past, present, and future] are in your hand....” What segments of your life - past, present, or future - do you need to commit into the hands of God?"

Hymn: Be still and know (vs 1) **64**

Responsive Prayer of the Community:

God, your hand has guided your people through the ages, and I look now for that guidance on a personal level. Your strong hand has grasped hold of your people in the past, to lead them through wilderness experiences into the security of a safe haven, and I ask now, that you also do that for me now. Turn these difficult times of fear and uncertainty into the trusting confidence in you that I once knew, and guide me through this wilderness experience. Turn this tough time into an experience where trust and confidence in God once again becomes my focus.

(Quiet pause for personal prayer)

Hymn: Be still and know (vs 2) **64**

Unchanging God, even though at times my ‘outer life’ has lost its focus and purpose, my ‘inner life’ has quietly and securely rested in your care, because I know that my God will not forsake me; and I know that my future and my times - whatever they may be, are held securely in God’s hands.

(Quiet pause for personal prayer)

Hymn: Be still and know (vs 3) **64**

Invitation:

Jesus invites us to this safe place where we sit at table together. Into your

hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. *Jesus offers us communion with one another and with God and gives us a gift we neither earn or deserve – the gift of love. Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.*

Hymn: Your hand, O God (vs. 1-2) **477**

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

The Lord is here. God's spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise. (Continue in thanksgiving)

O God, giver of all that is good,

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. May we know you in the teaching, praying, breaking of bread and especially in the communion we share with one another. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other.

Hymn: Your hand, O God (vs. 3-4) **477**
Communion

Prayer after Communion *Thanks be to you, O God, for your presence and your purpose, for your loving kindness and your steadfast Spirit. May the blessings of this table strengthen our faith, increase our generosity and unify our hearts, for we pray in the name of Jesus, the Risen One. Amen.*

Hymn: He’s got the whole world (1,5,6) **339**