**October 13, 2024 21st Sunday after Pentecost 11 AM**

Title: For He Had Great Possessions
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Watts, George Frederick, 1817-1904. **For He Had Great Possessions**, 1894

from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

**PRELUDE** “Fantasia in G (1st Mvt.) and with a Chorale Section” J.S. Bach

**WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**Psalm 95: 1-2, 6-7 NRSV

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

**HYMN #450** “Be Thou My Vision”

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;

naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
 thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
 waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

1. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;  
   I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
   thou my soul’s shelter, and thou my high tower;  
   raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.
2. Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;  
   thou, mine inheritance, now and always;  
   thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
   High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.
3. High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
   may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s Sun!  
   Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
   still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

**CALL TO CONFESSION** (Psalm 13: 2-4)

Lord, hear our voice!  
Let your ears be attentive  
    to the voice of our supplications!

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,  
    Lord, who could stand?  
But there is forgiveness with you,  
    so that you may be revered.

Let us confess our sins to God, trusting in his gracious forgiveness and love.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you  
with our whole heart and soul  
and mind and strength.**

**We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**In your mercy,  
forgive what we have been,  
help us amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be,  
so that we may delight in your will  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name.**

**ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE (**2 Corinthians 5:16-21)

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

everything old has passed away;

see, everything has become new!

All of this is from God,

who was reconciled to us through Christ,

and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

**RESPONSE: HYMN #581** “Gloria Patri”

Glory be 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. Amen.

**PEACE**

Let there be peace on earth.

**And let it begin with me.**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**RESPONSIVE READING** Psalm90:12-17 (NRSVUE)

So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.🕈

**Turn, O Lord! How long? Have compassion on your servants!** Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,  
    so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.  
 **Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us  
    and as many years as we have seen evil.** Let your work be manifest to your servants  
    and your glorious power to their children.🕈  
 **Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us  
    and prosper for us the work of our hands—**

**O prosper the work of our hands!**

**FIRST READING** Amos 5:6-7,10-15 (NRSVUE)

6Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,  
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. 7Ah, you who turn justice to wormwood and bring righteousness to the ground!

10They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. 11Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. 12For I know how many are your transgressions and how great are your sins—you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe and push aside the needy in the gate. 13Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time, for it is an evil time. 14Seek good and not evil, that you may live, and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. 15Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

**SECOND READING** Mark 10:17-31 (NRSVUE)

17As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” 18Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. 19 You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness. You shall not defraud. Honor your father and mother.’ ” 20 He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” 21Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” 22 When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

23Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” 24And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! 25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” 26They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” 27 Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

28Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.”29 Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for my sake and for the sake of the good news 30 who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. 31But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

**SERMON** “One More Thing?” John Gingrich

**HMYN # 442 (vv.1,4)** “Just as I Am, without One Plea”

1 Just as I am, without one plea but that thy blood was shed for me,  
 and that thou biddest me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

4 Just as I am, thy love unknown has broken every barrier down;  
 now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

**PROFESSION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES CREED**

**I Believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His Only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY**  “The Lord Is My Shepherd” Philip Hayes

(from an organ concerto movement)

**OFFERING SONG #606**  Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God, all creatures here below,

Praise God above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION/THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CLOSING HYMN #317** “In Christ There Is No East or West”

1. In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
   but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.
2. In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;  
   his service is the golden cord close-binding humankind.
3. Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be.  
   All children of the living God are surely kin to me.
4. In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.  
   All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** “Christ Is Our Strength and Light” George Boehm

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Today we welcome back **John Gingrich**, an Elder at Good Shepherd-Faith Church on the West Side of Manhattan. John has served as moderator of the Presbytery of New York City and has been a member of the Committee on Ministry as well as a Trustee, chair of the budget committee and a wide variety of special commissions and councils over 30 years of service.

**UPCOMING CALENDAR**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** and **ADULT BIBLE STUDY – 10:00 AM**

Please note that both Sunday School and Adult Bible Study have resumed

The Sunday School is using the Cokesbury “Heartshaper” curriculum, and the Adult Sunday School is studying the **Book of Acts** with a booklet by N. T. Wright.

**MIDWEEK STUDY** - Thursday 7:00 PM on Zoom (ID 820 459 1305)

We will be studying Bible verses on the Holy Spirit. Please contact the church office for the study.

**REMINDER:** We are still looking for **volunteers** for **worship readers** and/or **juice/coffee hour**. There is a 3-month sign-up sheet posted just outside the office, and we would appreciate your help as we have been transitioning back to in-worship service. If you have any questions, please contact the Office.

Please note: we now have a public WiFi for the church, though it may only be available in the church hall for now.

**Name: CHURCH GUEST**

**Password: welcome1**

**First Presbyterian Church of Forest Hills**

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**‘Cil Brewer**, Clerk of Session   **Hannah Lin**, Guest Organist

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