



A joyful church, guided by God, loving our neighbors.

28th | Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Virtual Service
Sunday, 11 October 2020

THE GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT

Surely the Presence

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. K. Nicholas Yoda

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Psalms 42 & 43/ David Paulik

One: Come, all you whose souls thirst for the living God.

ALL: We come in search of help and hope.

One: Come, you who are acquainted with grief or oppression.

ALL: We come bearing doubts, our wounds, and our fears.

One: Come, you who are in need of good news.

ALL: We come in search of joy, truth, and light.

One: Come and find refuge in God your rock.

ALL: Let us again praise the One who is our help and our hope!

OPENING PRAYER: Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, all, O God, are gifts of Your grace. We gather to sing You our praises and to tell of Your virtues in the midst of our neighbors. Your commandments are just; they give us direction. Your covenant encompasses us and in Christ knits us together. We give You all honor as we rejoice in Your glory. Amen.

OPENING HYMN #707

Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord

HALL

Take thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray; give us the mind of Christ each passing day;
Teach us to know the truth that sets us free; grant us in all our thoughts to honor thee.
Take thou our hearts, O Christ; they are thine own; come thou within our souls and claim thy throne;
Help us to shed abroad thy deathless love; use us to make the earth like heaven above.
Take thou our wills, Most High! Hold thou full sway; have in our inmost souls thy perfect way;
Guard thou each sacred hour from selfish ease; guide thou our ordered lives as thou dost please.
Take thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will; through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill.
We yield ourselves to thee: time, talents, all; we hear, and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.

CALL TO CONFESSION: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not within us. In confession we acknowledge our brokenness and our need for God who is faithful, just, loving and forgiving. In humility and in faith let us confess our condition to God by praying together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

One: O God, you come to us not in the chaos of the whirlwind, not in the roar of the earthquake, not in the crackling heat of the life, but in the sound of sheer silence. Quiet our minds, bring peace to our hearts and stillness to our bodies that we might meet you in that silence. Help us to listen for your still, small voice Give us the courage to go wherever you lead us, trusting that you will prepare the way. We pray this in the name of our Companion on the journey, Jesus the Christ. And now we silently confess our individual sins...

(At this time, you are invited to boldly confess your sins, as you are assured of forgiveness through Christ.)

One: We confess, O God, that we often find ourselves distracted by a legion of destructive voices that make false promises. Surely these are our inner demons:

Many: We believe safety and security can resident in ample bank accounts.

We think that success leads to real happiness.

We equate power with dominating others.

We hold fast to pain and anger as if they were treasure in a chest.

We soothe our fear of failure with substances that do harm.

We feed our hunger for love and approval with food that will never satisfy.

ALL: Break hold of the chains that bind us, O God. Set us free from the tombs in which we dwell. Amen.

THE KYRIE: **Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

One: Friends, hear this good news: In Christ, God calls us forth from the tomb to the light of new life. The healing power of God's forgiveness restores us to wholeness. God releases us from the chains that bind us.

We are set free to be children of God!

Many: Thanks be to God!

GLORIA PATRI #581: **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. Amen.**

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer: **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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

GIFT OF THE WORD

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Galatians 3:23-29

23 Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. 24 Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. 27 As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

1 Kings 19:1-15

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. 2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." 3 Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there. 4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." 5 Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." 6 He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. 7 The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." 8 He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. 9 At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" 10 He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Brother James' Air (Psalm 23)

MAROSA, arr. Gordon Jacob

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want. He makes me down to lie in pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by. He leadeth me, He leadeth me, the quiet waters by.
My soul He doth restore again; And me to walk doth make Within the paths of righteousness,
Ee'n for His own Name's sake. Within the paths of righteousness, Ee'n for His own Name's sake.
Yea, though I pass through shadows death, yet will I fear no ill; For Thou art with me; and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still. Thy rod and staff they comfort still They comfort still.
My table Thou hast furnished In presence of my foes; My head with oil thou dost anoint,
And my cup overflows. My head thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.
Goodness and mercy all my days Will surely follow me; And in my father's heart always My dwelling place shall be.

Sermon

"Who, Me?"

David Paulik

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

It is through Christ's reconciling work that we are the church, united to God and to other believers. As the church, we are the salt of the earth. We are the light of the world. We are entrusted with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ. As the church, we are witnesses by both word and deed. We proclaim the new heaven and the new earth, in which righteousness dwells. As the church, we proclaim that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered sin and death. God conquers irreconciliation, hatred and bitterness. As the church, God's life-giving Word and Spirit enables us to live in a new obedience, God opens new possibilities of life for society and for the world. We declare ourselves ready to venture out on the road of obedience and reconciliation—servants of the God who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #803

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

RESIGNATION

My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways, and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
When I walk through the shades of death your presence is my stay; one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread; my cup with blessings overflows; your oil anoints my head.
The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days; O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come; no more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

New Prayer Concerns:

- **Arno McGowan**, Health concerns
- **Thompson Family**, passing of Bob Thompson, husband of Lois Thompson
- **All Families who have suffered a loss**

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

- **Carol Barrows**, Nancy Forbriger's cousin, Ovarian Cancer
- **Denise Bien**, Health concerns
- **Ray Bogart**, Health concerns
- **Orpha DeMaria**, Health concerns
- **Marian Fenker**, Health concerns
- **Dorothy Fisher**, Health concerns
- **Estelle Goode**, mother in law of Rev. Amy Snow, recovering from surgery
- **Sue Imm**, Health concerns

- **Allison McGrath**, Cancer treatment
- **Glenn Montague**, Health concerns
- **Tom Wise**, Health concerns

Serving in the Armed Forces:

- **Zachary Huffman**, Friend of Barb Imm
- **Brian Montague**, grandson of Glenn Montague

Mission Co-Workers:

- **McGill Family**, back in the United States

****Please notify the church office of any prayer requests you may have including those of you who have loved ones in the Armed Forces or in Mission.**

BLESSED BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Month of October: 1 Jim Valentine, 2 Beatrice Lea, 9 Deborah McWhorter, 12 Marcie Crosby, Abigail Imm, , 16 Thomas Smith, 18 Gregory Hatch, 20 Norma Tassian, Hiroko Nishiyama, 23 Betty Merriman, 27 David Bayless.