



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

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8th Sunday after Pentecost/A Sacred Summer Series: *Love*  
Sunday, 18 July 2021

THE GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT

*Simple Gifts*  
Lauren Maynus, soloist

Shaker Song, arr. Aaron Copland

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free  
'Tis the gift to come down where you ought to be  
And when we find ourselves in the place just right  
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gained  
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed  
To turn, turn will be our delight  
'Till by turning, turning we come round right

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. K. Nicholas Yoda

PRELUDE

*O Perfect Love, arr. Hal Hopson*

Theresa Merrill

CALL TO WORSHIP

**One:** As we enter into worship today, we're going to start in a bit of a different way. Bring your hands in front of you like this. Extend your hands out in front of you spread a few inches apart with your palms up. Ok, now in one of your hands, try to imagine all those people that are easy for you to love. Who are they? What do they look like? How are you connected to them? Reflect on the love that you have for them and how it flows easily between you and them.

Now...in your other hand, try to imagine those people that are more difficult for you to feel that same kind of love. Maybe they're the people that you find it is easier to hold judgment towards. Maybe they are people who have hurt you. Maybe they are those who see the world very differently from you.

Now take both of your hands and bring them together like you are holding a bowl (cup your hands) and imagine all of those in both of your hands coming together and that both of your hands represent the way that God loves all of humanity and how we are called to love friend, neighbor, and enemy alike.

Remember this as we worship today.

OPENING PRAYER: God, many of us grew up singing a song about how you've got the whole world in your hands and we named off people, genders, races, economics...all of them in your hands. And it is love that held all of them together. Thank you for that incredible love that is bigger than anything we can ask for or imagine. May we find ways to live even the tiniest bit of that love. What a difference that would make. Amen.

OPENING HYMN #67

*My Song Forever Shall Record*

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

My song forever shall record the tender mercies of the Lord; your faithful love will I proclaim, and every age shall know your name. I sing of mercies that endure, forever firm, forever sure, a strong support that never dies, established changeless in the skies.

Almighty God, your lofty throne has justice for its cornerstone,  
and shining bright before your face are truth and love and boundless grace.  
With blessing is the nation crowned whose people know the joyful sound; they in the light,  
O Lord, shall live, the light your face and favor give.

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: **God of redeeming grace, have mercy upon us as we confess our sin. Charged to travel light, we overburden ourselves. Commissioned to preach repentance, we ourselves do not change. Cautioned to avoid violence, we are quick to confront others. Called to be reconcilers, we create divisions. As Christ sends us forth and equips us to serve Him, cleanse us of abusing His trust and His name.**

(Time of Silent Personal Confession)

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Remember that we have redemption through Christ's sacrifice on our behalf. We have forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of God's grace. For God has made known to us in all wisdom and insight the mystery of God's will "to unite all things in Him, things in heaven and things on earth." Therein lies our assurance of pardon.

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.**

## GIFT OF THE WORD

NEW TESTAMENT TEXT

John 21:15-19

5 When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." 16 A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." 17 He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. 18 Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." 19 (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

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

ANTHEM

*His Name So Sweet - Spiritual, arr. Hall Johnson*  
Lauren Maynus, soloist

I've just come from the fountain, I've just come from the fountain, Lord,  
I've just come from the fountain, His name's so sweet. O Lord,  
I've just come from the fountain, I've just come from the fountain, Lord,  
I've just come from the fountain, His name's so sweet.  
Poor sinner, do you love Jesus? Yes, yes, I do love my Jesus.  
Sinner do you love Jesus? His name's so sweet. O Lord ....  
Presiding Elder, do you love Jesus? Yes, yes, I do love my Jesus.  
Class leader, do you love Jesus? Yes, yes, I do love my Jesus.

SERMON

*To Love Another Person...*

Dr. K. Nicholas Yoda

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living 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.**

CLOSING HYMN #824

*There is a Place of Quiet Rest*

MC AFFEE

There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God, a place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.  
O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God, hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.  
There is a place of comfort sweet, near to the heart of God, a place where we our Savior meet, near to the heart of God.  
O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God, hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.  
There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God, a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.  
O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God, hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.

BENEDICTION

Dr. K. Nicholas Yoda

POSTLUDE

*Variations on PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, arr. Hal Hopson*

Theresa Merrill

REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

New Prayer Concerns:

- **All Families who have suffered a loss**

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

- **Denise Bien**, Health concerns
- **Darryl Davis**, health concerns, brother of Diana Hargrave
- **Dorothy Fisher**, Health concerns
- **Jen Hargrave**, daughter of Diana, sister of Wes, health concerns
- **Imm Family**, passing of Sue Imm
- **Vera Lambert**, Health concerns, hospitalized
- **Glenn Montague**, Health concerns

- **Martha Moore**, health concerns, mother of Elizabeth Hammelrath, Mother in Law of Steve Hammelrath

Serving in the Armed Forces:

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

Mission Coworkers:

- **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 July:** 2 Bonnie Anderson, 4 Cathy Behan, 6 George James, 10 Alexander Navarro, 8 Nancy Forbriger, Penny Golden, Tom Crosby, 9 Marjorie Evert, 10 Adell Elliot, 11 David Navarro, Steve Morgan, 13 Jeanette Marshall, 17 Marla James, 20 Marge Hammelrath, 21 Amy Odeh, 23 Dorothy Fisher.