

Service of Midday Prayer for May 20, 2020

Unraveled: Seeking God When Our Plans Fall Apart Selections from *A Sanctified Art*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

CENTERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

May this time be good for us in body, mind, and spirit,
for we gather in the presence of God, who made us and loves us and will never leave us.
Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

So much in life is unpredictable.
Life begins and ends.
The weather changes.
Love surprises us.
Doors close.
Others open.
Life is unpredictable,
But what we can count on is finding God in this space;
For this is God's house, and all are welcome.
So bring your questions and concerns, your doubts and wonderings,
For in the midst of this unpredictable life, we can predict this:
Love lives here.
Let us worship God.

HYMN

Come and Fill Our Hearts

*Come and fill our hearts with your peace,
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace,
Alleluia!*

SCRIPTURE

John 20: 19-29 *Doubting Thomas*

REFLECTION

When the Unimaginable Has Happened

SUNG RESPONSE (Psalm 139)

*Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
If I go to the heavens you are there,
if I lay my head in the depths you are there.
If I ride on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
even there your hand will guide me;
your right hand will hold me fast.*

PRAYERS OF CONCERN & LORD'S PRAYER

Response to each petition:

Hear our cry, O God. **Listen to our prayer.**

We pray all these things in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray together saying...

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**I believe in God, the Great Sewer—
Who weaves us together in community,
Collecting our loose ends and turning them into belonging.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit—
Who hems us in before and behind,
Catching us when we fall and writing us into God's holy narrative.**

**And I believe in Jesus Christ—
Who loved and claimed the people society had thrown out, refusing to disregard
anyone as scrap.**

**I believe God has woven part of God's self into the fiber of our being,
Making us inherently worthy of love and belonging.
I believe the fabric of my life is weak,
That I am prone to error and need God's handiwork to remind me of love.**

**I believe in the Church, and that like a quilt of different fabrics,
She is designed to be as diverse and beautiful as God's creation.**

**And I believe that when life unravels,
God is there to stitch my wounds together,
To hold me in the palm of God's hand, to tell me of love,
And to invite me into a new journey.
Amen.**

*I need thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
no tender voice like thine can peace afford.*

(Refrain)

***I need thee, O I need thee, every hour I need thee!
O bless me now, my Savior - I come to thee!***

*I need thee every hour; stay thou nearby;
temptations lose their power when thou art night.*

(Refrain)

*I need thee every hour, Most Holy One;
O make me thine indeed, thou blessed Son.*

(Refrain)