



Sunday, August 30, 2020

Welcome!

We are thankful that you are worshiping with us today! To learn more about the life of our congregation, join our email list [here](#).

Here are some helpful resources for our younger worshippers:

[Children's Bulletin](#) | [Worship Worksheet for Kids](#)

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:30 A.M., The Church Gathered on Facebook Live

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

From whirlwind and burning bush,
in the still of night and in sheer silence—

God calls the faithful to sacred work.

Beckoning us to turn aside,
inviting us to stand on holy ground—

God welcomes the faithful into sacred space.

Come, God is calling.

Let us worship the Lord!

*OPENING PRAYER

Ad. Ambrose of Milan (c. 339-397)

Merciful God, save us from our sin and let your Holy Spirit burn in us. Take away our hearts of stone and give us hearts of flesh – to love you and adore you, to follow and enjoy you, to delight in you forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 314

Christ, Be Our Light

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

1. *Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.*

Refrain:

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

2. *Longing for peace, our world is troubled.*

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has power to save us.

Make us your living voice. [Refrain]

3. *Longing for food, many are hungry.*

Longing for water, many still thirst.

Make us your bread, broken for others,

shared until all are fed. [Refrain]

4. *Longing for shelter, many are homeless.*

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us your building, sheltering others,

walls made of living stone. [Refrain]

5. *Many the gifts, many the people,*

many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another,

making your kingdom come. [Refrain]

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

May God be with you in worship there.

May God be with you in worship there.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

When we pass through deep waters or go through times of fiery trial, the Lord our God is with us. With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Compassionate God, who hears the cries of the oppressed, you call us to resist evil and hold fast to what is good, to take up the cross and commit our lives to the cause of love. But we are afraid to confront powers that privilege some and diminish others; we do not want to lose the security we enjoy. Forgive us. Open our eyes to hear your voice, our eyes to look upon neighbors in need, and our hearts to respond with compassion, that we might follow the way of Christ.

Silence is kept for personal prayer

POURING OF THE WATERS & DECLARATION OF PROMISE AND FORGIVENESS

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

God's life-giving Word and Spirit conquer the powers of sin and death. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

*THE GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 582)

GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me;

And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, Amen.

World without end, without end, Amen. World without end, without end, Amen;

World without end, without end Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 399)

God Welcomes All

THEMBA AMEN

God welcomes all, strangers and friends. God's love is strong and it never ends. (Repeat)

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

I AM, you call out to us by name, wanting to speak to us, to instruct and send us. Help us to notice your near presence, so that we will stop to listen for your voice. In your goodness, grant us yet again a holy encounter that transforms us and, in turn, relieves the suffering of your people. Amen.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Exodus 3:1-15

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Matthew 16:21-28

The gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

Jeff Moles

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Jesus tells us that if we are to be his followers, we must deny ourselves, take up our cross and go wherever he leads. It is in losing our lives that we find life. In response to God's call, let us bring the offerings of our life and labor to God.

[Give online](#)

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*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.*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

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

debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, creator and restorer of all life, we thank you for this table and what it represents. As a people called to your work to glorify you in every walk of life, let this table draw us closer together so that we might draw closer to you. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 828

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

Refrain:

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

- 1. Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
the Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God. [Refrain]*
- 2. All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died. [Refrain]*
- 3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
your death has brought us life eternally. [Refrain]*
- 4. So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory. [Refrain]*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

PREACHING

Jeff Moles, Director of Christian Education & Mission

PRESIDING AT THE TABLE

Rev. David Madewell

ASSISTING

Dennis Jewett, Director of Music

Stephanie Dubé, Director of Youth Ministries & Weekday School

MUSICIANS

Patrick Ritsch, Organist