

Thin Places

WHERE EARTH & HEAVEN MEET

The Greatest Law: Prayers for Election Day

Service of Midday Prayer

Wednesday, October 28, 2020

First Presbyterian Church

OPENING SENTENCES

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Ps. 124:8

Maker of heaven and earth.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God the Almighty,

Rev. 4:8

Who was and is and is to come.

THE SONG OF THE LAMB (Hymn 369)

Rev. 5:12

Hymn 369 – O QUANTA QUALIA

1. Blessing and honor and glory and power,
Wisdom and riches and strength evermore,
Be to the Lamb who our battle has won,
Whose are the kingdom, the crown, and the throne.

2. Let all the heavens sound forth Jesus' name;
Let all the earth sing his glory and fame.
Ocean and mountain, stream, forest, and flower
Echo these praises and tell of God's power.

3. Ever ascending the song and the joy,
Ever descending the love from on high;
Blessing and honor and glory and praise:
This is the theme of the hymns that we raise.

4. Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb;
Take we the robe and the harp and the palm;
Sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,
Dying in weakness but rising to reign.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy One, Source of all life and Ground of all love,
We thank you for your love that never lets us go.
Thank you for the privilege of gathering together
With these your people--our neighbors--to worship you.
You call us not to open the doors of the church,
but that our hearts might be opened to you and to one another.
As we worship you today, help us to respond to the call of love
--to love you, our neighbors, and ourselves.
May we be transformed from individuals to members of your one body.
We pray for our nation that we be united as a people tied to a single garment of
destiny.
We pray for those who we elect to serve all citizens
That they may be guided not by ego, politics, or money,
But by compassion for all people.
Guide us as families, as a community of faith, as a nation
To follow the path of love. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 22: 34–46

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

REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

Under your law we live, great God,
And by your will we govern ourselves.
Help us to be good citizens
To respect neighbors whose views differ from ours,
So that without partisan anger,
We may work out issues that divide us,
And elect candidates to serve the common welfare;
Through Jesus Christ the Lord.

HYMN

In Times of Great Decision

AURELIA

1. In times of great decision, be with us, God, we pray
Give each of us a vision of Jesus' loving way.
When louder words seem endless and other voices sure,
Remind us of your promise: Your love and truth endure.

2. O God, whose gifts are countless, You send us bearing peace.
You fill our dreams with justice for all communities.
You give us global neighbors that all may justly live.
May those we choose as leaders reflect the life you give.

3. O God, you bridged the distance; You opened wide your door.
You call us by our presence to reach to serve the poor.
You teach us: Welcome strangers, seek justice on the earth.
May those we choose as leaders see every person's worth.

4. You call on every nation to put aside all greed,
To care for your creation and for your ones in need,
To care for those in prison, for children, for the ill.
In times of great decision, may we choose leaders well.

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DISMISSAL

In the city of God, night shall be no more;
They need no light of lamp or sun,
For the Lord God will be their light,
And they will reign forever and ever.

Rev. 22:5

Amen.

Bless the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.