

<https://youtu.be/hf4RoafbnSk>

Order of Worship, First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 5, 2021

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Announcements

Prelude

“The Healing Hand of God”

Ritter

For Prayer and Reflection:

from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*
Generous God, you are my maker and I trust in you. Surround me with your favor today that I may hear the cry of those in need and share my resources in response to the excellent name of Jesus Christ, my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Call to Worship

Lord, open our hearts this morning to hear your words of compassion.

Lord, help us to truly listen to you.

Lord, open our spirits this morning to strengthen our faith.

Lord, help us to work for you.

Lord, make us ready to serve.

Lord, make us ready to witness to your healing love. Amen.

Opening Prayer

****Song of Praise***

“Great Are You Lord”

Ingram/Jordan/Leonard

Verse: You give life, You are love, You bring light to the darkness
You give hope, You restore every heart that is broken
Great are You, Lord

Chorus: It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only

(Verse)

(Chorus)

Bridge (3x): All the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing
Great are You, Lord

(Chorus 2x)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and compassionate God, every day, in our desire to attain our wants, avoid discomfort, and shun those we do not know or love, we show ourselves to be unworthy of your gifts of life. Of this we are sorely aware. We ask for your power to renew us in body and spirit, that we will be able, through your help, to walk in the way you intend for us. Forgive us and lead us, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silent Confession (Here let each worshiper offer silent, personal prayers of confession)

Declaration of Forgiveness

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven
and freed to try again.

**Gloria Patri* (#734)

“Glory Be to the Father”

Greatorex

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.

Children’s Message

Prayer for Illumination

Special Music

“God Is Love”

Proulx

Scripture Reading

Mark 7:24-37

p. 1564

Sermon

“Asking the Questions: Who is God for?”

**Hymn of Response #398*

“O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”

Ebenezer

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!

Rolling as a mighty ocean
in its fullness over me!

Underneath me, all around me,
is the current of thy love—
leading onward, leading homeward,
to thy glorious rest above!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus—
spread his praise from shore to shore!

How he loves us, ever loves us,
changes never, nevermore!
How he watches o'er his loved ones,
died to call them all his own;
how for them he's interceding,
watching o'er them from the throne!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
love of every love the best!

'Tis an ocean vast of blessing,
'tis a haven sweet of rest!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus—
'tis a heaven of heavens to me;
and it lifts me up to glory,
for it lifts me up to thee!

**Affirmation of Faith*

selections from The Belhar Confession

We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God’s Spirit it is a binding force,

yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain; that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted.

Joys and Concerns

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 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.

**Sending Hymn #402*

“He Came Down”

Cameroon

He came down that we may have love;
He came down that we may have love;
He came down that we may have love;
Hallelujah forevermore.

He came down that we may have peace;
He came down that we may have peace;
He came down that we may have peace;
Hallelujah forevermore.

He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
Hallelujah forevermore.

He came down that we may have life;
He came down that we may have life;
He came down that we may have life;
Hallelujah forevermore.

**Benediction*

**Postlude*

Fantasy on “When Morning Gilds the Skies”

arr. Edwards

**Those who are able, please stand.*

***The 222nd General Assembly (2016) approved an amendment to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Book of Confessions that added the Confession of Belhar. The Confession of Belhar was written as a protest against a heretical theological stance by the white Dutch Reformed Church that used the Bible and the Confessions to justify the harsh and unjust system of Apartheid.*

Leaders in worship:

Preacher: Rev. Stephanie Ells
Liturgist: Annalee Ward
Music Director & pianist: Kristen Eby
Special Music Director: Jill Klinebriel
Special Music: John Eby
Musicians: John & Kristen Eby

“The Healing Hand of God”
Music: Ritter
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“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”
Music: Hatch; arr. Jackson
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