

# Dorchester United Church Worship Service October 4th, 2020

## World Communion Service

### *Musical Prelude*

### *Call to Worship*

Our ancestors told us all that God has done. We will tell it to our children and to our children's children. God's glorious deeds and wonderful acts will not be forgotten. Let us come before God in reverence and humility. God has brought us together to equip us for service. We will praise God's Name as the Spirit gives us utterance.

### *Opening Prayer*

From eternity, O God, You have cared for creation. Yet You have not forsaken us, Your children. You tend to the earth and watch over its harvest. You graciously provide for our journey. In this hour of praise and thanksgiving we rejoice in the new day You have given us. We entrust to You the cares and worries that have overcome us. Thirsting for Your word, we worship Jesus in whose name we pray. Amen

### *Hymn # 660 VU How Firm a Foundation*

1. How firm a foundation, ye Saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in his excellent word!  
What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
Who unto the Savior, who unto the Savior,  
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

2. In ev'ry condition—in sickness, in health,  
In poverty's vale or abounding in wealth,  
At home or abroad, on the land or the sea—  
As thy days may demand, as thy days may demand,  
As thy days may demand, so thy succor shall be.

3. Fear not, I am with thee; oh, be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, upheld by my righteous,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

4. When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
The rivers of sorrow shall not thee o'erflow,  
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,  
And sanctify to thee, and sanctify to thee,  
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

5. When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,

My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply.  
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
Thy dross to consume, thy dross to consume,  
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.

6. E'en down to old age, all my people shall prove  
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
And then, when gray hair shall their temples adorn,  
Like lambs shall they still, like lambs shall they still,  
Like lambs shall they still in my bosom be borne.

7. The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose  
I will not, I cannot, desert to his foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, I'll never, no never,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!

## *Prayer of Confession*

Families gather around the table to share a meal. As the global family of Christians gathers around God's table today, many are missing. The pandemic has taken its toll. We confess our vulnerability and brokenness. As a family that spans the globe we too often have become victims of our own fears and wantonness. Have mercy, O God, upon us and forgive us when we fail to treat one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. Amen

## *Words of Assurance*

God forgives us for not caring about one another. We have chosen to follow our own way. There is reconciliation for all the members of the human family in the cross of Jesus.

Thanks be to God

## *Hymn #291 All Things Bright and Beautiful*

All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.

The purple-headed mountain,  
The river running by,  
The sunset and the morning,  
That brightens up the sky.

The tall trees in the greenwood,  
The meadows where we play,  
The rushes by the water,  
We gather every day.

Each little flower that opens,  
Each little bird that sings,  
He made their glowing colours,  
He made their little wings.

The cold wind in the winter,  
The pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden,  
He made them every one.

## *Scriptures*

Psalm 80: 7-15

<sup>7</sup> Restore us, O God of hosts;  
let your face shine, that we may be saved.

<sup>8</sup> You brought a vine out of Egypt;  
you drove out the nations and planted it.

<sup>9</sup> You cleared the ground for it;  
it took deep root and filled the land.

<sup>10</sup> The mountains were covered with its shade,  
the mighty cedars with its branches;

<sup>11</sup> it sent out its branches to the sea,  
and its shoots to the River.

<sup>12</sup> Why then have you broken down its walls,  
so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

<sup>13</sup> The boar from the forest ravages it,  
and all that move in the field feed on it.

<sup>14</sup> Turn again, O God of hosts;  
look down from heaven, and see;  
have regard for this vine,

<sup>15</sup> the stock that your right hand planted.

## *Isaiah 5: 1-7 The Song of the Unfruitful Vineyard*

<sup>5</sup> Let me sing for my beloved  
my love-song concerning his vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.

<sup>2</sup> He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
and planted it with choice vines;  
he built a watch-tower in the midst of it,  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;  
he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes.

<sup>3</sup> And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and people of Judah,  
judge between me  
and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup> What more was there to do for my vineyard  
that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield wild grapes?

<sup>5</sup> And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;  
I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup> I will make it a waste;  
it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;  
I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.

<sup>7</sup> For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts  
is the house of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are his pleasant planting;  
he expected justice,  
but saw bloodshed;  
righteousness,  
but heard a cry!

***Message: A Song of Justice REV KEITH RAMESHWAR***

### ***Hymn #468 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ***

Let us talents and tongues employ,  
reaching out with a shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again.  
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one,  
at his table he set the tone,  
teaching people to live to bless,  
love in word and in deed express.  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again.  
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus calls us in, sends us out  
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Immanuel) everywhere!  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again.  
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Words by: Fred Kaan, 1975  
Music by: Adapt. Doreen Potter, 1975

# The Sacrament of Holy Communion

## Invitation to the Table

God had broken down the walls that make us strangers to one another. Christ's broken body restores us to wholeness. His blood poured out brings healing to our world.

## The Eucharistic Prayer

We long, O God, for community but often forget our dreams in the morning. Your everlasting arms surround us reminding us that we are Your people. We stretch out our arms to embrace the alien and the stranger in our midst. New friends and forgotten dreams tell us that Your body was broken for us. Make us whole again that we may by Your Spirit eat the bread and drink from the cup the mystery of true communion.

## The Words of Institution

### Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup

### Post Communion Prayer

For the bread we have eaten and the wine we have tasted, we give You thanks, Holy God. May what we have said and done here so put its mark upon us that we may become mature Christians. Amen

## Hymn #664 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

What a friend we have in Jesus  
All our sins and griefs to bear  
And what a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit  
Oh, what needless pain we bear  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged  
Take it to the Lord in prayer  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness  
Take it to the Lord in prayer

## Blessing

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you to the end of your road. May the Christ who serves with wounded hands teach you to serve each other. May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart be your love forever. When you go out, may you see the face of Jesus in everyone you meet and may everyone you meet see the face of Jesus in you. AMEN

## Postlude