

July 7, 2024
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost – Proper 9

We Gather In God's Presence

Prelude: "He's Got The Whole World in His Hand" Trad. Spiritual Arr. by Margaret Bonds Nancy Quinn

Birthdays, Celebrations, and Life and Work of the Congregation – see last page ...

Lighting the Christ Candle

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

Call to Worship

In Bethlehem Jesus came into this world,

Through the Holy Spirit and Holy Scripture,

Jesus still comes to us over and over again.

On the shores of the Sea of Galilee Jesus called his first disciples,

In Thames Centre Jesus calls us as disciples.

On hillsides and in synagogues he taught them,

Here in this place he teaches us still.

As we gather in this place, let us listen, learn & worship the Lord our God.

Hymn: VU 415 "God, We Praise You for the Morning" Words: Jim and Jean Strathdee. Music: Jim Strathdee

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God, we praise you for the morning;
hope springs forth with each new day,
new beginning, prayer, and promise,
joy in work and in play.

God we praise you for creation,
mountains, seas, and prairie land.
Waking souls find joy and healing
in your bountiful hand.

God we praise you for compassion,
all the loving that you show;
human touching, tears, and laughter,
help your children to grow.

God we praise you for your Spirit,
Comforter and daily friend,
restless searcher, gentle teacher,
strength and courage you send.

God we praise you for the Saviour,
come that we may know your ways.
In his loving, dying, rising,
Christ is Lord of our days.

Hallelujah, hallelujah,
hallelujah, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
Christ is Lord of our days.

Opening Prayer By Walter Bruggemann from *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth*

You are the God who is simple, direct, clear with us and for us.

You have committed yourself to us.

You have said

yes to us in creation,

yes to us in our birth,

yes to us in our baptism,

yes to us in our awakening this day.

But we are of another kind, more accustomed to “perhaps,” “maybe,” “we’ll see,”
left in wonderment and ambiguity.

We live our lives not back to your yes,

but out of our endless “perhaps.”

So we pray for your mercy this day that we may live yes back to you,

yes with our time,

yes with our money,

yes with our sexuality,

yes with our strength and with our weakness,

yes to our neighbor,

yes and no long “perhaps.”

In the name of your enfleshed yes to us,

even Jesus who is our yes into your future.

Ministry of Music: “Lord, Speak To Me” Text adap. by Norm Abbott

Music from “The Magic Flute” by W.A. Mozart

A New Creed VU 918

We are not alone,

we live in God’s world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus,

the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others

by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God’s presence,

to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn VU 512 "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" Words: Jeffery W. Rowthorn, 1978, © 1978.

Music: Cyril Vincent Taylor, 1941, © 1942, renewal 1970. Words and Music © Hope Publishing Co.
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Lord, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word."

Lest the church neglect its mission, and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you call us to your service: "In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervour, draw us closer in community;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you make the common holy: "This my body, this my blood."
Let us all, for earth's true glory, daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us share your children's liberty;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you show us love's true measure: "Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us to a just society;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend,
and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us for the work of ministry.

Psalm 48 VU 772-773

R: Glorious things of you are spoken, Zion, city of our God.

Great is God,
and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God.

**Fair and lofty is God's holy mountain;
it is the joy of all the earth.**

On Mount Zion, in the far north,
stands the city of the Great Ruler;
in its citadels God is known as a sure defence.

R: Glorious things of you are spoken, Zion, city of our God.

See how the rulers assembled;
they raged together against it.

**But when they saw it, they were astounded;
they were dismayed and ready to flee.**

Trembling came upon them,
as anguish comes to a woman in childbirth;

**as when the east wind blows
and breaks up the ships of Tarshish.**

As we have heard, so have we seen,
**in the city of the God of hosts,
the city our God upholds forever.**

R: Glorious things of you are spoken, Zion, city of our God.

We remember your steadfast love, O God,
as we gather in your temple.

**Your name, like your praise,
reaches to the ends of the earth.**

Your right hand is filled with victory.

**Let Mount Zion rejoice,
and the children of Judah be glad
because of your judgements.**

Go in procession around the circuit of Zion,
count the number of its towers,

**take note of its ramparts,
examine its citadel,**

so that you may tell the next generation:

“Such is our God, our guide for ever.”

R: Glorious things of you are spoken, Zion, city of our God.

Scripture: Mark 6:1-13 The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth and The Mission of the Twelve

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown and among their own kin and in their own house.” And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff: no bread, no bag, no money in their belts, but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

The other readings for this week are: 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10.

Meditation: “Help!”

Hymn VU 639 “One More Step Along the World I Go” Words & Music: Sydney Carter, 1971.

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One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go,
from the old things to the new,
keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

Round the corner of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn;
all the new things that I see
you'll be looking at along with me:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

As I travel through the bad and good,
keep me travelling the way I should;
where I see no way to go
you'll be telling me the way, I know:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

Give me courage when the world is rough,
keep me loving though the world is tough,
leap and sing in all I do,
keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

You are older than the world can be,
you are younger than the life in me,
ever old and ever new,
keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

We Respond To God's Grace

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

It was you, Imaginative God, who whispered, and the rumble of creation shook the rafters of chaos. Mighty trees graced valleys with shade, stars glittered in moonless nights, children splashed in the pools of hope. Every delight was crafted so we might know of that love which would last forever. A love that breathed the breath of life into every creature that lives. A love that blessed all life with all that it needs to live and grow and thrive. A love that bears with us in our folly. A love that never ends. Remind your church, once again, how to love the world as you love the world. Especially we pray this week for Bothwell-Wabash Pastoral Charge, and their spiritual leader, Annalee Kerr. Remind us again, O lover of life, that all peoples are your beloved and we ought to treat them as such. Especially we pray this week for the people of Eritrea and Ethiopia. Remember, Great Creator, that we are not immortals, but are fragile, mortal beings who sometimes suffer. We pray for all who mourn a loss, especially the friends and family of Allan Weir and Don Laidlaw. We bring to your attention those who are ill or dying, those awaiting medical treatment or recovering from medical intervention, their loved ones and caregivers, especially Sheila Duffin, Marion Jenkins, Russ Zavitz, and those known only in the silence of our hearts...

All this we pray in the name of your beloved son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus, the Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. And we sing the words he taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil
for the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.**

Invitation to Invest in God's Mission

God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. We give, not to maintain our building, but in order that those in need may have their lives shaped and changed by the grace of God.

Offertory Hymn MV 191 "What Can I Do?"

Words and Music: Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy; arr. Alan C. Whitmore, 2005.

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What can I do? What can I bring? What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer. I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious and life-giving God, accept these, our offerings, and use them to birth new life and new hope in the lives of the desperate in our world. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn VU 481 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" Words: Omer Westendorf, 1964. Music: Welsh folk tune.

Harmonized by Leland Bernhard Sateren. Words © 1964 World Library Publications, Inc.

Arrangement © 1972 Augsburg Fortress Publishers.

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Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from the dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended, O now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, God's love shall unite us
to work for the kingdom and answer its call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we still face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children of each tribe and race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honour to Christ and the name that we bear.

Commissioning and Benediction

Go into this new day led by the Joy of creation.

We go singing choruses of hope to a world in despair.

Go walk with those whose hearts are broken,

We go offering compassion to those frozen with fear.

Go heal grudges that have been held far too long.

We go filling those who grieve with the laughter of hope.

Go with daring, knowing that God goes ahead of you,
walks by your side, and follows behind to prop you up lest you falter.

Response: VU 298 "When You Walk from Here" Words & Music: Linnea Good
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When you walk from here, when you walk from here,
walk with justice, walk with mercy, and with God's humble care.

Postlude: "O Worship The King" Arr. by Johann M. Haydn

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Schedule:

Rev. Mark will be on vacation July 15 to August 4, inclusive. Karlene Kimber will be covering in the event of pastoral emergencies. You can reach Karlene at 519-282-3056.

Reynolds Creek United Church (Putnam) invites you to join them for worship on July 21 and July 28 at 10 a.m., or you could take advantage of the opportunity to visit other churches (not even necessarily United Churches) and bring back ideas for DUC.

Holy Diner: Thursdays, 5-7 p.m., Rain or Shine!

LECTIONARY READINGS:

July 14 – Eighth after Pentecost - Proper 10

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19; Psalm 24; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29