

Sunday July 6, 2025
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – Proper 9

We Gather In God's Presence

Prelude: "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings" Words from Psalm 94. Music by Samuel Liddle.

Soprano Nancy Quinn

Birthdays, Celebrations, and Life and Work of the Congregation

Lighting the Christ Candle:

Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light for my path.

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

Call to Worship VU 2 (vss. 1, 3) – *sung*. "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" *Charles Wesley*

Words: Charles Wesley, 1744. Music: Psalmodia Sacra, 1715.

Words and Music in the Public Domain.

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free:
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.

Born thy people to deliver; born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever; now thy gracious kingdom bring.

Hymn VU 59 "Joy to the World"

Isaac Watts

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719. Music attrib. George Frederic Handel, 1742; arr. Lowell Mason, 1836

Words and Music in the Public Domain.

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:

let earth receive her King!

Let every heart prepare him room,

and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns:

let all their songs employ,

while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

repeat the sounding joy,

repeat the sounding joy,

repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrows grow,

nor thorns infest the ground:

he comes to make his blessings flow

far as the curse is found,

far as the curse is found,

far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the earth with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Prayer of Approach (*unison*)

(*from The Methodist Worship Book*)

Almighty God, you raised up your servants, John and Charles Wesley, to proclaim anew the gift of redemption and the life of holiness. Pour out your Spirit, and revive your work among us, that inspired by the same faith, and upheld by the same grace in word and sacrament, we and all your children may be made one in you: through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Prayer of Confession

John Wesley

Forgive them all, O Lord:

...our sins of omission and our sins of commission;

...the sins of our youth and the sins of our riper years;

...the sins of our souls and the sins of our bodies;

...our secret and our more open sins;

...our sins of ignorance and surprise;

...and our more deliberate and presumptuous sins;

...the sins we have done to please ourselves;

...and the sins we have done to please others;

...the sins we know and remember;

...and the sins we have forgotten;

...the sins we have striven to hide from others;

...and the sins by which we have made others offend.

Forgive them, O Lord, forgive them all for His sake, who died for our sins and rose for our justification, and now stands at your right hand to make intercession for us, Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

Words of Assurance VU 669 vs. 4 – *spoken* “Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

Charles Wesley

Words: Charles Wesley, 1740. In the Public Domain.

Let us hear again the testimony of our Wesleyan ancestors who trusted in a God of reconciling love when they proclaimed:

Plenteous grace with thee is found,

grace to cover all my sin;

let the healing streams abound;

make and keep me pure within.

Thou of life the fountain art,

freely let me take of thee;

spring thou up within my heart;

rise to all eternity.

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.

We Open Ourselves to Receive God's Blessings

Psalm 90 VU "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Isaac Watts

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719. Music: attrib. William Croft, 1708.

Words and Music in the Public Domain.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:

under the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure,
sufficient is thy arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time like an ever-rolling stream
soon bears us all away,
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

Scripture: Colossians 3:12-17

Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The lectionary readings for this week are: 2 Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30; Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20.

Sermon: "Go Wesley, Young Man!"

VU 48 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" Words: Charles Wesley, 1739.

Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; adapt. William Hayman Cummings, 1856.

Words and Music in the Public Domain.

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
please with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

VU 326 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" Words: Charles Wesley, 1739.

Music: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, ca. 1828; adapt. and harm. Lowell Mason, 1839.

Words and Music in the Public Domain.

O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.

He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

Hear him, you dear; you voiceless ones,
your tongues again employ;
you blind, behold your Saviour comes,
and leap, you lame, for joy!

My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of your name.

VU 336 "Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies" Words: Charles Wesley, 1740.

Music: Werner's Choralbuch, 1815. Words and Music in the Public Domain.

Christ whose glory fills the skies,
Christ the true, the only light,
sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near;
daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
 pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
 fill me, radiance divine,
 scatter all my unbelief;
 more and more thyself display,
 shining to the perfect day.

VU 333 “Love Divine, All Love’s Excelling” Words: Charles Wesley, 1747.

Music: Rowland Huw Prichard, ca. 1831. Words and Music in the Public Domain.

Love divine, all love’s excelling,
 joy of heaven to earth come down,
 fix in us thy humble dwelling,
 all thy faithful mercies crown.
 Jesus, thou art all compassion,
 pure, unbounded love thou art;
 visit us with thy salvation,
 enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver;
 let us all thy grace receive;
 suddenly return, and never,
 never more thy temples leave.
 Thee we would be always blessing,
 serve thee as thy hosts above,
 pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
 glory In thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation;
 pure and spotless let us be;
 let us see thy great salvation
 perfectly restored in thee,
 changed from glory into glory,
 till in heaven we take our place,
 till we cast our crowns before thee,
 lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Hymn VU 331 “The Church’s One Foundation”

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Words: Samuel John Stone, 1866; adapt. Lawrence Hull Stookey, 1983.

Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864. Words and Music in the Public Domain.

Words adaptation © 1983 The United Methodist Publishing House.

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The church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ our Lord,
 we are his new creation by water and the Word,
 from heaven he came and sought us that we might ever be
 his living servant people, by his own death set free.

Called forth from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
 one charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
 One holy name professing and at one table fed,
 to one hope always pressing, by Christ's own Spirit led.

Though with a scornful wonder the world sees us oppressed,
 by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
 yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"
 But soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of our war,
 we wait the consummation of peace forevermore;
 till with the vision glorious our longing eyes are blest,
 and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

We now on earth have union with God the Three in One,
 and share through faith communion with those whose rest is won.
 Oh, happy ones, and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
 like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

We Respond To God's Grace

Invitation to Invest in God's Mission

We give not to the church, but to God. We give not out of want, but out of abundance, for God has blessed us with an abundance. Our tithes and offerings will be received.

Offertory Hymn VU 676 vs. 4 "God, Make Us Servants of Your Peace" *Samuel Sebastian Wesley*
 Words: St. Francis of Assisi, ca. 1220; paraphrased James Quinn.
 Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1872. Music in the Public Domain.
 Paraphrase © 1969 Selah Publishing Co. OneLicense.net A620168

May we not look for love's return,
 but seek to love unselfishly.
 For in our giving we receive,
 and in forgiving are forgiven.

Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, out of our abundance we present our tithes and offerings. They are a sign of our commitment to your call to be a blessing to the world; they are a sign of our devotion to you. Accept and bless these offerings that they may be used to feed the hungry, heal the sick, house the homeless, and offer hope to the desperate; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

(with spoken response) **VU 636** vs. 1 "Give to the Winds Your Fears" *John Wesley*
 Words: Paul Gerhardt, 1656; translated by John Wesley, 1739.
 Words and Translation in the Public Domain.

Give to the winds your fears. Hope and be undismayed.
 God hears your sighs and counts your tears.
 God shall lift up your head, God shall lift up your head.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who lovest all and forgettest none,
we bring to thee our prayers for all thy children.

For all whom we love, and for whom we watch and care;

For all prisoners and captives, and all who suffer from oppression,

that thou wilt manifest thy mercy towards them, and make the heart of man merciful as thine own;

For all who bear the cross of suffering, the sick in body or in mind,

Especially we think of: Annette, Jack, Ken,

Give to the winds your fears. Hope and be undismayed.

God hears your sighs and counts your tears.

God shall lift up your head, God shall lift up your head.

For all those who are troubled by the sin or suffering of those they love;

For all who are absorbed in their own grief, that they may be raised to share the sorrows of their
brethren, and know the secret and blessed fellowship of the cross,

Especially we think of the friends and family of Grant.

Give to the winds your fears. Hope and be undismayed.

God hears your sighs and counts your tears.

God shall lift up your head, God shall lift up your head.

For all perplexed by the deeper questions of life, and overshadowed with doubt,
that light may arise in their darkness;

For all who are tried by passionate temptations, or mean suggestions,
that thy mercy may be their salvation;

For all who are lonely and sad in the midst of others' joys,

that they may know thee as their friend and comforter;

For the infirm and the aged, and for all who are passing through the valley of death,
that they may find their strength in thee, and light at evening time;

Give to the winds your fears. Hope and be undismayed.

God hears your sighs and counts your tears.

God shall lift up your head, God shall lift up your head.

For all forgotten by us, but dear to thee;

(60 seconds silence)

O God our Father, have regard to our intercessions, answer them according to thy will, and make us the
channels of thine infinite pity and helpfulness and worthy to pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, who
taught us to pray thus:

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 trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn VU 416 vss. 1, 3, 5 "Forth in Your Name, O Christ"

Charles Wesley

Words: Charles Wesley, 1749. Music: Robert Schumann, 1839.

Words and Music in the Public Domain.

Forth in your name, O Christ, we go,
our daily labour to pursue,
you, only you, resolved to know
in all we think, or speak, or do.

You may we set at our right hand,
whose eyes our inmost secrets view,
and labour on at your command
and offer all our works to you.

Then with delight may we employ
all that your bounteous grace has given,
and run our earthly course with joy,
and closely walk with you to heaven.

Commissioning and Benediction

We are no longer our own, but God's.

God's will, not ours be done, in all things.

We are yours, O God, and you are ours.

May it be so forever. Amen.

Sung Response: "Go Now in Peace"

Words and music: Don Bessig and Nancy Price.

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Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there supporting us with love.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen, amen, amen.

Postlude: "Somebody Bigger than You and I" by Johnny Lange, Hy Heath, and Sonny Burke.

Soprano Nancy Quinn

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Diner is back. It runs from 5 to 7 p.m. every Thursday until August 28.

Thames Centre Pride event will be held at Dorchester Park noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 6.

UCW Summer Event is July 19 at Siloam United Church, London, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The guest speakers and musical performers are Colleen Jamieson, Danielle Hill and Jolene Jamieson-Nethcott. They are members of Oneida First Nation and are known collectively as “Sisters in Spirit.”

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Lectionary Readings for next week: July 13, Fifth after Pentecost, Proper 10
Amos 7:7-17; Psalm 82; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37