



A Service for the Worship of God
Third Sunday After Pentecost

June 21, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

PREPARATION

- *Please set out a candle that you can light as we light the Christ Candle during worship.*

Gathering Around God's Word

Prelude

Jim Pera

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Josh Sweeney, Director of Children's Ministries

Call to Worship

based on Zechariah 9:9-12

*One: Come and celebrate, people of God!
Sing and shout your praise!*

**All: For our God comes to us:
triumphant and victorious,
yet gentle and humble of heart.**

*One: Christ comes, bringing peace,
offering hope and freedom to all who despair.*

All: Let's worship God!

Hymn # 761

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

verses 1 and 4

See next page.

1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life

we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 let us fol - low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.
 help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 that sur-round each per - son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor - er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com - fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv - ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,

e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful - fill God's cho - sen end.
 blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth - er gra - cious gifts from God un - fold.
 bring new power and strength for ac - tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 mes - sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

Prayer of Confession

Caring and loving God, we have experienced broken lives made whole, old wounds of alienation healed over, and tired spirits rejuvenated with new vision. We are grateful for the purpose and possibilities you have placed before us. Yet, there are times when doubt has overcome hope and cynicism has replaced dedication. We tend to follow voices in this world that lead toward a sense of entitlement and selfishness instead of compassion and grace. In your mercy, forgive us, Lord. Help us let go of the past, that we might move joyfully into the future you envision for us.

(Silence for personal reflection and confession.) Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

*One: This is the good news: God hears our prayers, our cries, and our hearts.
In Christ, we are forgiven, and offered new life.*

**All: In response to this amazing gift, we will forgive others
and seek to live in ways that give witness to God's love. Amen.**

Response to Forgiveness "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" *Hymn 645, verse 1*
The organist will play it once. Then we will sing it.

**Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled,
and every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.**

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Hearing God's Word

Scripture Reading

Psalm 86: 1-10, 16-17

Josh Sweeney

Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long. Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you. Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication. In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me. There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours. All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.

For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God. Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant; save the child of your serving girl. Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame, because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Children's Time

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Scripture Reading

Genesis 21:8-21

Rev. Laura Nile

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned.

But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this enslaved woman with her son; for the son of this woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your servant woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is

through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the servant woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.”

So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba. When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, “Do not let me look on the death of the child.” And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept.

And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, “What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.” Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Matthew 10:29-30

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Creator. And even the hairs of your head are all counted.

Anthem

“It Is Well with My Soul”
Ruth Whatley, soloist

by Horatio G. Spafford

Sermon

“God’s Future”

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Responding to God’s Word

***Profession of Faith**

(Adapted from A Brief Confession of Faith)

In life and death, we belong to God. We trust in one God, the Holy One, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ. Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain, and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the powers of sin and evil, delivering us from death to eternal life.

We trust in the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, and sets us free to accept ourselves, and to love God and neighbor. In gratitude to God we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks, and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, Come Lord Jesus!

Hymn # 435

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness
 2 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures

of the sea. There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,
 of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal

which is more than lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's
 is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more

sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place
 faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -

where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
 flect thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of our Lord.

Presentation of Offerings

If you would like to give online, please go to www.sminster.com/give where you can give once or set-up a reoccurring monthly offering to the church.

***Presentation Hymn # 582** “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me” *verse 1 only*

Organist will play it once. Then, the congregation will sing it.

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be Amen.**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Rev. Laura Nile

Prayers of the People and 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.

Hymn # 753

“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

See next page.



1 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 2 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 4 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. It



there is ha-tred, let me bring your love. Where
 there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. Where
 is in par-don-ing that we are par-doned, in



there is in-ju-ry, your par-don, Lord, and
 there is dark-ness, on-ly light, and
 giv-ing of our-selves that we re-ceive, and in



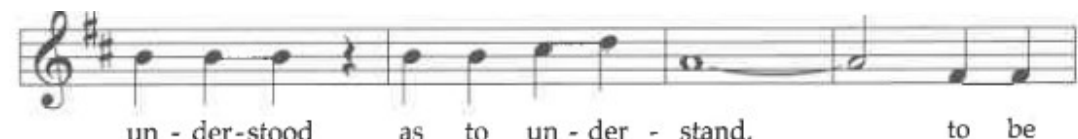
where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 where there's sad-ness, ev-er joy.
 dy-ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life.



3 O, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek so



much to be con-soled as to con-sole, to be



un-der-stood as to un-der-stand, to be

to Stanza 4



loved as to love with all my soul.

Benediction

Postlude