

Southminster Presbyterian Church



A Service for the Worship of God *Sixth Sunday After Pentecost*

July 12, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

PREPARATION

- Please set out a candle that you can light as we light the Christ Candle during worship.
- Please print out the last page, called “Children’s Page,” if you have a child.

Gathering Around God’s Word

Prelude

Jim Pera

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Ruth Whatley

Call to Worship

One: Holy God, because love is patient...

**All: help me to be slow to judge, but quick to listen,
hesitant to criticize, but eager to encourage.**

One: Because love is kind...

All: help my words to be gentle and my actions to be thoughtful.

One: Because love does not envy or boast, and it is not proud...

All: help me have a heart that is humble and sees the good in others.

One: Because love is not rude...

All: help me to speak words that are easy on the ear and on the heart.

One: Because love is not easily angered and keeps no record of wrongs...

All: help me to forgive others as you have forgiven me.

One: Because love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth...

All: show me how I can make a difference.

One: Because love always protects and always trusts...

All: help me to be a refuge for those around me.

One: Because love always perseveres...

All: thank you, God, for showing us what the word love really means. Amen.

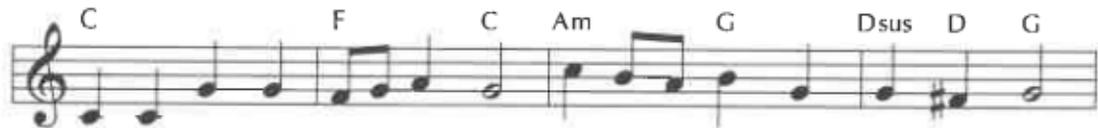
Hymn # 19

“God of Great and God of Small”

omit verse 2



1 God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,
2 God of land and sky and sea, God of life and des - ti - ny,
3 God of si - lence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,
4 God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,



God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things be - long,
God of nev - er - end - ing power, yet be - side me ev - ery hour,
God of day and dark - est night, God whose love turns wrong to right,
God of now and days be - fore, God who reigns for - ev - er - more,

Refrain



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, praise be to your name.

Prayer of Confession

Ben Locke

Gracious God, you know, as well as we do, the ways that we hurt each other. Like Isaac and Rebekah, we choose favorites, causing pain to those who most need our love and attention. Like Esau, our impulse for immediate gratification makes us forget what is most important. Like Jacob, we want to be in control instead of trusting your claim on us. Forgive us when we let our fragile egos and insecurities get in the way of being agents of your love in this world. In your mercy, heal our broken relationships and fragmented lives. Amen.

(Silence for personal reflection and confession.) Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Ben Locke

One: God has created us to be a family—sisters, brothers, neighbors, and friends.

All: No longer strangers, we are all welcome in God’s heart.

One: In Christ, we are one. We are a new people—forgiven and made whole.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Response to Forgiveness “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Might Gates”

Hymn # 93, verse 3

(Organist will play once, then congregation will sing it with the soloist.)

**Redeemer come! I open wide
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in me reveal.**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Scripture

Genesis 25: 19-34

Ben Locke

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the LORD. And the LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger." When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Children's Time

See [Children's Page at end of bulletin.](#)

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Scripture Reading

Genesis 33:1-10

Ben Locke

Now Jacob looked up and saw Esau coming, and four hundred men with him. So he divided the children among Leah and Rachel and the two maids. He put the maids with their children in front, then Leah with her children, and Rachel and Joseph last of all. He himself went on ahead of them, bowing himself to the ground seven times, until he came near his brother. But Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept.

When Esau looked up and saw the women and children, he said, "Who are these with you?" Jacob said, "The children whom God has graciously given your servant." Then the maids drew near, they and their children, and bowed down; Leah likewise and her children drew near and bowed down; and finally Joseph and Rachel drew near, and they bowed down. Esau said, "What do you mean by all this company that I met?" Jacob answered, "To find favor with my lord." But Esau said, "I have enough, my brother; keep what you have for yourself." Jacob said, "No, please; if I find favor with you, then accept my present from my hand; for truly to see your face is like seeing the face of God—since you have received me with such favor.

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3 Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;
 4 Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh.
 5 Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,

wean it from earth; through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
 Teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;

stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - pening skies;
 I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
 to check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh.
 the bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed Dove,

and make me love thee as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
 Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
 my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

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 *Sung to the tune of "All Creatures of Our God and King."*

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three staves of music in treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/2 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The second staff begins with a measure number '6' and contains the lyrics: 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le-'. The third staff begins with a measure number '12' and contains the lyrics: 'lu - ia! Praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more; Praise Tri-une God whom we a - dore. Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le-'. The final line of the score shows the lyrics: 'lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!'.

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

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 # 619

“Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven”

omit verse 4

See next page.

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; glad of heart your
 2 Praise God for the grace and fa - vor shown our fore - bears
 3 Like a lov - ing par - ent car - ing, God knows well our
 4 An - gels, teach us ad - o - ra - tion; you be - hold God

car - ols raise; ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
 in dis - tress; God is still the same for - ev - er,
 fee - ble frame, glad - ly all our bur - dens bear - ing,
 face to face. Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion,

who, like me, should sing God's praise? Al - le - lu - ia!
 slow to chide, and swift to bless. Al - le - lu - ia!
 still to count - less years the same. Al - le - lu - ia!
 dwell - ers all in time and space: Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the Mak - er all your days!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing our Mak - er's faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! All with - in me, praise God's name!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

Benediction

Postlude

Children's Page



HOUSE OF PEACE