



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

**September 27, 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. Laura Nile Tuell*

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

*Marj Lawson*

**Call to Worship**

One: We have come to worship God, the living God,

**All: Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.**

One: We have come to praise God, the almighty God,

**All: Who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace.**

One: We have come to worship God, all-gracious God,

**All: Who chooses even you and me, to receive and carry the  
Word of life and hope.**

**All: Glory be to God!**

**Hymn # 396**

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”

*omit verses 3*

## Prayer of Confession

Marj Lawson

God, our Deliverer,  
we confess that we are too reluctant  
to speak and to live according to your truth.  
We grow comfortable with the way things are,  
passively condoning injustice.  
We see ourselves as “insiders,”  
excluding those we consider “outsiders.”  
We find it easier to pluck up and pull down,  
to destroy and overthrow,  
than to build and to plant.  
Forgive us, O God, for being timid disciples.  
Empty us of fear and shame,  
and fill us with love that is humble and patient and kind.  
We pray this in the name of the One who  
humbled himself, Jesus the Christ.

*(Silence for personal reflection and confession.)* Amen.

## Assurance of Forgiveness

Marj Lawson

One: God has loved us since the beginning

**All: and God’s love for us will never end.**

One: Do not fear, therefore, but have faith in God’s steadfast love, God’s healing power

**All: and God’s ability to make all things new. Amen.**

## Response to Forgiveness

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”  
Hymn # 93 Verse 3

Ruth Whatley

*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.*

## Passing of the Peace

Marj Lawson

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## Hearing God’s Word

## Prayer for Illumination

Marj Lawson

## Scripture Reading

Luke 4:21-30

Marj Lawson

Then Jesus began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled

with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

**Children's Message**

*Rev. Laura Nile Tuell*

**Anthem**

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”  
Bell Choir

*arr. Karen Roth*

**Scripture Reading**

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

*Ellie and Jack Farmer*

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

**Sermon**

“Through a Screen Dimly”

*Rev. Laura Nile Tuell*

**Responding to God's Word**

**Hymn # 722**

“Lord, Speak That I May Speak”

*verses 1,4,5*

**Offering**

*Josh Sweeney*

**Presentation Hymn # 607**

“Doxology”

*(Inclusive Version)*

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen*

**Affirmation of Faith**

*Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,

begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.

## Sharing of Joys and Concerns

*Josh Sweeney*

## Prayers of the People and 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 # 839

“Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine”

## Benediction

## Postlude



## **FLOWERS**

*Flowers given by George and Marj Lawson in joyous celebration of their 38<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.*

*Bulletin Cover art comes from the Rila Monastery in Bulgaria and features the personifications of Love, Faith, Hope, and Sophia (wisdom).*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for all the latest information and event schedules*

*Our second Outdoor Worship Service will be on September 30 at 6:00 p.m. Please bring your own chair and wear a mask. We look forward to worshipping with you again in person.*