

October 4, 2020 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost (on-line worship service)

## WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PASTORAL GREETING

### VIRTUAL PASSING OF THE PEACE

**Leader:** The Peace of Christ be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

### PRELUDE

*“Dona Nobis Pacem”*

François Couperin

### RINGING OF THE BELL

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Luke Weber

From north and south, from east and west we come:

God's people called to the Table where simple grace nourishes us.

From down the street to across town, from single households to apartment dwellers:

God' people are called to community where we live and serve one another.

From every class, every race, every status; from little ones with sappy cups to elders with overflowing hearts:

God's people are called to witness to God's hope, to offer peace to a shattered world.

*Playing Hopscotch In Heaven Thom Schuman*

### HYMN

*“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”*

#331

Music: George William Warren, 1892

Text: Daniel Crane Roberts, 1876, alt.

*God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne arise.*

*Thy love divine hath led us in the past. In this free land by thee our lot is cast.  
Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay: thy word our law, thy paths our chosen way.*

*Refresh thy people on their toilsome way. Lead us from night to never-ending day.  
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Luke Weber

Gracious God, long ago you gave us the law to guide us in the way of righteousness.

When we wandered, you called prophets to beckon us toward faithfulness. In the fullness of time you sent your Son to heal our brokenness and draw us close to you. But time and time again we reject your gift of grace. We bow before the false gods of our world and forget your command to serve the least of these. We fill our days with self-serving agendas and trivial tasks and neglect to nurture our relationship with you.

Forgive us Lord. Come to us again, we pray, and set us on right paths, so that we might produce the fruits of your kingdom. Amen.

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Persistently, patiently, lovingly, God pours out grace and joy into our lives, healing our brokenness, forgiving our sin. Loved we are sent to love; forgiven we are freed to forgive. Thanks be to God!

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Rev. John Milne

## **MEDITATIVE MUSIC**

*"Et in Terra Pax"*

François Couperin

## **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Alison Lamb

Forgotten God You are hidden beneath our idea of being "good Christians". We long to rediscover Your faithfulness and love.

We want to reflect Your grace and mercy in our lives so that we may become the tenants of Your vineyard, ready to share our harvest with all. Amen.

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Isaiah 5:1-7**

### **The Song of the Unfruitful Vineyard**

Let me sing for my beloved  
my love-song concerning his vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.  
He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
and planted it with choice vines;  
he built a watch-tower in the midst of it,  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;  
he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and people of Judah,  
judge between me  
and my vineyard.  
What more was there to do for my vineyard  
that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield wild grapes?

And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.  
I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;

I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.  
I will make it a waste;  
it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns;  
I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.

For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts  
is the house of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are his pleasant planting;  
he expected justice,  
but saw bloodshed;  
righteousness,  
but heard a cry!

### **Psalm 80:7-15**

Restore us, O God of hosts;  
let your face shine, that we may be saved.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;  
you drove out the nations and planted it.  
You cleared the ground for it;  
it took deep root and filled the land.  
The mountains were covered with its shade,  
the mighty cedars with its branches;  
it sent out its branches to the sea,  
and its shoots to the River.  
Why then have you broken down its walls,  
so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?  
The boar from the forest ravages it,  
and all that move in the field feed on it.

Turn again, O God of hosts;  
look down from heaven, and see;  
have regard for this vine,  
the stock that your right hand planted.

### **RESPONSE**

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Thanks be to God.  
(Deut. 6:6)

## **SERMON**

### **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

This is the joyful feast of the people of God!  
People will come from the north and south, and from the east and west to sit at table in the Kingdom of God. According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, Blessed and broke it, and he gave it to them. Their eyes were opened and they recognized him. This is the Lord's table, our Savior invites all those who trust in Him to come and share the feast which he has prepared.

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & LORD'S PRAYER**

May the composer of heaven's music be with you!

#### **And also with you!**

Beloved, God has created you for faithful living.

#### **We lift our hearts to the One who calls us to be Christ's Body.**

People of God, sing to the One who cleanses us of our fears.

#### **We will dance with joy to the Table of peace and hope.**

*Playing Hopscotch In Heaven*      *Thom Schuman*

Holy God, we praise you. Let the heavens be joyful and the earth be glad!...

### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

On the night he would be betrayed, Christ ate a meal with friends and he took bread and after thanking God for it, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying,

"Take, eat. This is my body broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Friends, the Bread of heaven given for you!

And in the same way, Christ took the cup and said,

"This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Friends, the cup of salvation!

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of abundance with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**HYMN**

**“Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen”**

#536

Music: Timothy J. Strand, 1997  
Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1997

*Rise, O church, like Christ arisen, from this meal of love and grace;  
may be through such love envision whose we are, and whose, our praise.  
Alleluia, alleluia: God, the wonder of our days.*

*Rise, remember well the future God has called us to receive;  
present by God’s loving nurture, Spirited then let us live.  
Alleluia, alleluia: Spirit, grace by whom we live.*

*Service be our sure vocation; courage be our daily breath;  
mercy be our destination from this day and unto death.  
Alleluia, alleluia: Rise, O church, a living faith.*

**CHARGE AND BLESSING**

You are a blessed people. Go to be a blessing in the world.  
You are the face of Jesus. Go to be love and compassion to all.  
You are the family of God. Go to serve our sisters and brothers  
wherever you may find them.

**CLOSING HYMN**

**“This is My Song”**

The Peace-Making Project Virtual Choir

**Congregational Meeting**

**Moment for Mission: Peacemaking Offering**