

Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 31, 2022

The asterisk () indicates to please rise in body or spirit.*

Silent Prayer of Preparation

Holy One, you see us for just who we are, and yet you love us with a parent's love. In your enduring love for us, we see both our guilt and our acquittal. Gracious God, continue to guide us and teach us to walk in your ways. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Gathering Music

The Gathering of God's People

Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship

"In Thee Is Gladness"

arr. Diane Bish

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

"Alleluia"

Origin Unknown
The Music Men & Jen

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We are children of God, learning to walk.

People: Day by day, we are learning to be the church.

Leader: God is a loving parent, teaching us to walk.

People: God loves us, leads us, and feeds us.

***Hymn**

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

#39

The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession** *(read in unison)*

Almighty and eternal God, we thank you that you have not left us alone in our sin and despair. Loving us, you have brought us Good News and set before us the Way of Life. Yet we confess that we have often failed to see the Way. In stubborn pride we have spurned your mercy and your help. In selfishness we have turned away from those who need us. We have allowed ourselves to be crushed by troubles, as though Christ had not been raised at all. Forgive our faithlessness and grant that we may know new life and hope in the spirit of the resurrection. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen. (Silent prayer of confession.)

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Response Hymn**

“Spirit of the Living God”

#288

Ministry of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Children's Sermon

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 107:1-9, 43

Special Music

“Amazing Grace”

The Music Men & Jen
arr. Tom Gentry

Second Scripture Reading

Hosea 11:1-11

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Love Divine”

Rev. Désirée M. Youngblood

The Response to the Word

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Confession of 1967 (9.18-19)

God expressed love for all humankind through Israel, whom God chose to be a covenant people to serve him in love and faithfulness. When Israel was unfaithful, God disciplined the nation with judgment and maintained the covenant through prophets, priests, teachers, and true believers. These witnesses called all Israelites to a destiny in

which they would serve God faithfully and become a light to the nations. The same witnesses proclaimed the coming of a new age, and a true servant of God in whom God's purpose of Israel and for humanity would be realized.

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

***Hymn** "Your Endless Love, Your Mighty Acts" #60

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Pastor: ... In faith, O God,
People: we seek your grace.

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.

***Invitation to Offering**

Offertory: "Over the Rainbow" The Music Men & Jen
arr. Ed Waesche

***Response** Doxology #606

***Prayer of Dedication**

The Sending of God's People

***Closing Hymn** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" #366

Choral Benediction "Irish Blessing" The Music Men & Jen
arr. by Don Gray

***Charge and Blessing**

***Congregational Response** “We Are the Church”

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to - geth-er!". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church to - gether!". The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for congregational singing.

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***Postlude** "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Pastor: Rev. Désirée Youngblood
Dr. Mark A. Johnson

Music Director: Thomas Lloyd

Organist: Carol Welk

Liturgist: Steve Watters

Special Music: The Music Men & Jen

Jen Vilardi—Tenor

Craig Chadwell—Baritone/Bass

Steve Lind—Lead

Paul Oswalt—Bass/Baritone