

Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 26, 2022

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

Meditation before Worship

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to be obedient and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may fix our eyes on him and steadfastly follow in the paths of your kingdom. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Gathering Music

The Gathering of God's People

Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

arr. J. Wayne Kerr

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

Cruise In

Stephanie Huddleston

***Call to Worship**

Leader: The agendas of the world place many gods before us, but today we seek the counsel of the One who is truly God.

People: **We want to hear once more of a God who cares, a God who has high expectations of us.**

Leader: Let nothing stand in the way of our listening, and let no looking back prevent our following Christ.

People: **For freedom Christ has set us free; therefore, we will not submit to the yoke of slavery.**

Leader: Let us celebrate the freedom that is ours in Christ, turning away from temptations of the flesh that enslave.

People: **All are welcome in the household of God. Let us seek to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

***Hymn** "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" #337

The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

***Call to Confession**

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

God of the prophets, we confess that we have failed to heed your word. We hear your call to discipleship, but we find it too demanding. We hear the summons to follow you, but we let other allegiances claim us. Forgive us, God of grace. We place our lives in your hands. Set us free to love you, our neighbors, and ourselves. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen. (Silent prayer of confession.)

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Response Hymn** "Gloria Patri" #581

Ministry of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Children's Sermon

First Scripture Reading

1 Kings 19:15-21

Special Music

Paul Oswalt, soloist

"All I Ever Have To Be"

Amy Grant, b. 1960

"Down to the River to Pray"

Traditional

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 9:51-62

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "No Turning Back" Rev. Désirée M. Youngblood

The Response to the Word

***Affirmation of Faith**

Confession of Belhar (10.7)

We believe that God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people.

We believe that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged.

We believe that God calls the church to follow God in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry.

We believe that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind.

We believe that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly.

We believe that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering.

We believe that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right.

We believe that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

We believe that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged.

We believe that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.

***Hymn**

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

#726

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.

*Invitation to Offering

*Response

“Give Thanks”

#647

*Prayer of Dedication

The Sending of God's People

*Closing Hymn

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

Insert

*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 has a treble clef and 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 also has a treble clef and 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

"Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling"

arr. Wilbur Held

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

Liturgist: Joyce Lloyd

Soloist: Paul Oswalt
Organist: Carol Welk
Acolyte: Devin Griggs