

Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 17, 2022

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

Silent Prayer of Preparation

Holy God, patient and kind, you know that we are worried and distracted by many things. Help us to choose the better part—the joy and peace of your presence—so that we might enjoy the life that can never be taken away; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gathering Music

The Gathering of God's People

Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship

"My Heart Ever Faithful"

arr. Anna Laura Page

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship (from Psalm 15)**

Leader: O Lord, who may abide in your tent?

People: Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Leader: Love your neighbor as yourself,

People: with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind!

Leader: Do this and you will live!

People: Let us worship God!

***Hymn**

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"

#263

The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

***Call to Confession**

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

Forgive us, loving God, for hurrying past you in our daily lives. We crowd our lives with so many frenetic activities, many of them worthwhile, and yet we forget the one essential thing. We spend time with our loved ones, but forget the one essential thing. We give to worthy causes, but forget the one essential thing. O Lord, may we never forget your presence again. Forgive us for self-preoccupation and neglecting our lives with you. Woo us to your heart all over again, and show us the joy, meaning, and purpose that come through living our lives in you. 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

Colossians 1:15-28

Special Music

"Hallelujah"

Leonard Cohen, 1984
Kevin Mack, soloist

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 10:38-42

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“One Essential Thing”

Rev. Désirée Youngblood

The Response to the Word

***Affirmation of Faith**

Confession of Belhar (10.3)

We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.

We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God’s Spirit it is a

binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain.

We believe that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted.

We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope; together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ; together are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity; together know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ; that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.

We believe that this unity can be established only in freedom and not under constraint; that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God.

We believe that true faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition for membership of this church.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Pastor: This we pray:

People: God save us, heal us, and make us whole.

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**

Doxology

#606

***Prayer of Dedication**

The Sending of God's People

***Closing Hymn** "Wonder of Wonders, Here Revealed"

#489

***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 the lyrics: "I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to - geth-er!". The second staff has the lyrics: "All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church to - gether!". The music consists of simple, rhythmic patterns suitable for congregational singing.

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***Postlude**

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

arr. Anna Laura Page

Pastors: Rev. Désirée M. Youngblood
Steve Watters

Liturgist: Steve Watters

Music Director: Thomas Lloyd

Organist: Carol Welk

Soloist: Kevin Mack