

July 18, 2021 ~ Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM:

Penelope Callahan, 21st
Tanya Davis Sparks, 24th

GATHERING SONG: No. 14 – 288 – “Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

CALL TO WORSHIP:

As we gather today to worship, let us remember that each time we speak,
we have the opportunity to give life by choosing to use language that empowers,
that is sensitive to the plight of oppressed people,
that honors all human beings as God’s good Creation,
and that has evolved through time and history.
Well-chosen words have the ability to build up, instead of tear down.
Let us come together to worship.

OPENING SONG OF PRAISE: No. 403 – “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

Open now thy gates of beauty,
Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty
waits for God who answers prayer;
O how blessed is this place,
filled with solace, light, and grace.

Gracious God, I come before thee;
come thou also unto me;
where we find thee and adore thee,
there a heaven on earth must be;
to my heart O enter thou;

let it be thy temple now.

Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee;
let thy will be done indeed;
may I undisturbed draw near thee,
while thou dost thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows;
here is balm for all our woes.

ADMITTING THE BROKENNESS OF LIFE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON):

Lord, let us be aware of time that allows for love and caring to be expressed.

Forgive us for the need to rush away from the most important communications

It seems we are always in a hurry to move away to the next text, call or appointment

Help us hold in respect our communication with one another,

Let us realize, Lord, the importance of truth expressed and feelings shared.

Time for Silent Confession

Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:

Children of God, believe the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

SONG OF RESPONSE: No. 469 – “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Lord, send your Spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Send us love; send us power; send us grace

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD IN OUR MIDST

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING: Exodus 4:8-12 and Mark 8:22-25

SERMON: "Real Talk"

SONG OF RESPONSE: No. 722 – "Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak"

Lord, speak to me that I may speak
in living echoes of your tone.
As you have sought, so let me seek
your erring children lost and lone.

O lead me, Lord, that I may lead
the wandering and the wavering feet.
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed
your hungry ones with manna sweet.

O teach me, Lord, that I may teach
the precious truths which you impart.
And wing my words that they may reach
the hidden depths of many a heart.

O fill me with your fullness, Lord,
until my very heart o'erflow
in kindling thought and glowing word,
your love to tell, your praise to show.

O use me, Lord, use even me,
just as you will, and when, and where
until your blessed face I see,
your rest, your joy, your glory share.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: from *A Declaration of Faith*

We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives that recognize all people in all cultures as our neighbors on this planet. We are obligated to speak the truth in love, to listen with patience and openness, to love our enemies, to accept the risk and pain which love involves.

RESPONDING IN GRATITUDE AND SERVICE

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

*DOXOLOGY: No. 37 – 701 – "Lord, Prepare Me"

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for you.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*FINAL HYMN: No. 306 – "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.

We share our mutual woes;
our mutual burdens bear.
And often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.

When we are called to part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.

From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.

BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: No. 539 – "We Will Go Out with Joy"

We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.
We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.
Alleluia! We will go out with joy. Alleluia! Alleluia!
We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.
We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.



July 18, 2021

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#288 - Spirit of the Living God

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