



Worship - August 16, 2020

Liturgist: George Copenhaver
Special Music: Jim Wingate

Music as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship

Chime Prelude: "Children of the Heavenly Father"

Welcome

Call to Worship

My house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples,
says the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Opening hymn "In Christ There is no East or West" tune: MC KEE
Glory to God #317, verses 1 - 4

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord close-binding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God,
whose compassion embraces everyone,
gather the outcast and the lost,
heal the wounds of fear and distrust,
and make us a community that comes together
so we show forth your merciful love
and rejoice in your astounding grace
in Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures - Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Thus says the LORD:
Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—
these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt-offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.
Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

Music

“Jesus Loves Me”

Jim Wingate on Recorder, Celtic Harp, and Reed Organ

Children's Sermon Time – Blessing of the School Year

Gospel Reading - Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon.

Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, ‘Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.’

But he did not answer her at all.

And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.'

He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.'

But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.'

He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.'

She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.'

Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Meditation

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.**

Offering

Closing hymn

"She Came to Jesus"
TO THE TUNE OF "BE THOU MY VISION"

tune: SLANE

Lyrics by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

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She came to Jesus from outside the fold —
Canaanite woman! Persistent and bold!
Looking to Jesus, she wanted to see
One who would help her and set her child free.

Claiming a blessing, a touch of God's grace,
She knew God's love was not bounded by place.
Jesus, you listened, debated — then healed —
For in her asking, her faith was revealed.

God, you still bless those who seek you in prayer.
You welcome dreamers who faithfully dare.
In Christ, now risen, your mercy extends:
Those on the outside are welcomed as friends.

Benediction

Doxology -

*(Vocals by Allison Kelly and Ellette Burke,
cello effect on synthesizer by Jim Wingate)*

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.*