



# The Worship of God

3rd Sunday after Pentecost • June 21, 2020

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## PRELUDE

*If You Search with All Your Heart*

Craig Courtney

Sue Anderson, soprano; Jasmine Braxton, acolyte  
Words from Jeremiah 29:11-14

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Patsy Calhoun & Peggy Hughes

*(All speak words in **boldface**.)*

The God of creation makes us one in body!

**Let us give witness in faith, hope, and love!**

The God of Christ makes us one in the Spirit!

**Let us worship God in joyful praise!**

## HYMN

*My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

SOLID ROCK

Lynn Auman, violin; Chad Hammer, cello

*My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

*Refrain:*

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;  
all other ground is sinking sand.*

*When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace;  
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.*

*Refrain:*

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;  
all other ground is sinking sand.*

TEXT: Edward Mote, c. 1834, alt. TUNE: William Batchelder Bradbury, 1863, alt.

## PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

Eternal God, you are the power behind all things:

**behind the energy of the storm,  
behind the heat of a million suns.**

Eternal God, you are the power behind all minds:

**behind the ability to think and reason,  
behind all understanding of the truth.**

Eternal God, you are the power behind the cross of Christ:

**behind the weakness, the torture and the death,  
behind unconquerable love.**

**O changeless God, under the conviction of your Spirit,  
I learn that the more I do, the worse I am.**

**The more I know, the less I know;  
the more holiness I have, the more sinful I am;  
the more I love, the more there is to love.**

**My heart is full of affection, yet full of leaks.**

We are your Body, and yet we lose track of how we are knit together.

**Our memory is faulty; we easily forget the lessons learned  
and so your truths seep away. Give us broken hearts that—  
even still—carry home the waters of grace. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

What more could be done than what Christ has done? His death is our life, his resurrection our peace, his ascension our hope, his prayers our comfort. Friends, hear and believe this good news: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia. Amen.**

#### RESPONSE OF PRAISE

*Glory Be to the Father*

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.***

***Amen, amen.*** (TEXT: Trad. liturgical text P.D. TUNE: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851 P.D.)

#### SCRIPTURE READING

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

#### SERMON

“The Church Is... A Community of Hope”

Rev. Laura Viau

#### HYMN

*We Are a New Creation*

LANCASHIRE

***We are a new creation of Christ, the living Word.  
Our songs of jubilation shall everywhere be heard.  
New life blooms fresh and glorious for those who heed the call  
of Christ, who reigns victorious o'er sin and death and all.***

***We are a new creation by God's own gracious hand,  
old burdens cast behind us, a daring future planned.  
In ministry and mission, united let us live,  
in Christ a shining vision to God's wide world to give.***

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*[from the Confession of 1967, "The Fulfillment of Reconciliation" (9.53-9.56)  
Inclusive version.]*

**God's redeeming work  
in Jesus Christ  
embraces the whole of human life:**

**social and cultural,  
economic and political,  
scientific and technological,  
individual and corporate.**

**It includes the natural environment  
as exploited  
and despoiled by sin.**

**It is the will of God  
that the divine purpose for human life  
shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ  
and all evil be banished from creation.**

**Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ,  
such as**

**a heavenly city,  
the household of God,  
a new heaven and earth,  
a marriage feast,  
and an unending day**

**culminate in the image of the kingdom.**

**The kingdom  
represents God's triumph over all  
that resists the divine will  
and disrupts God's creation.**

**Already God's reign is present  
as a ferment in the world,  
stirring hope in all people  
and preparing the world  
to receive its ultimate judgment  
and redemption.**

**With an urgency  
born of this hope,  
the church applies itself to present tasks  
and strives for a better world.  
It does not identify limited progress  
with the kingdom of God on earth,  
nor does it despair  
in the face of disappointment  
and defeat.  
In steadfast hope,  
the church looks beyond all partial achievement  
to the final triumph of God.**

**“Now to him  
who by the power at work within us  
is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think,  
to him be glory in the church  
and in Christ Jesus to all generations,  
forever and ever.  
Amen.”**

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

CLOSING RESPONSE      *Lord, You Give the Great Commission*      ABBOT’S LEIGH  
Gail Thomas, soprano; Laura Viau, alto; Wayne Tillman, tenor; Ken Curry, bass

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**Rev. Laura Viau, Interim Pastor ([laurabviau@gmail.com](mailto:laurabviau@gmail.com))**

**Randy Warner**, Organist/Pianist; **Stephanie Reeves**, Church Secretary; **Linda Rowell**, Church Treasurer;  
**Joyce Winkler**, Qualified Ruling Elder; **Crystal Braxton**, Nursery;  
**Hery Ramambasoa**, Regional Liaison for Southeast Asia and the Pacific

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PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL. ☺