



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

6th Sunday after Pentecost | July 12, 2020

NOTE: You might want to gather these simple items of **bread** and **drink** for communion.

PRELUDE

You and I

Natalie Sleeth

Gail Thomas, soprano; Alberta Gisel, alto; Ken Curry, tenor; Chad Hammer, bass

Who's goin' to tell the story? You and I!

Tell of the Lord's great glory? You and I!

Who's goin' to let the whole world know?

Help His disciples grow and multiply? You and I!

Who's goin' to bring the kingdom? You and I!

Who's goin' to spread the gospel? You and I!

Who's goin' to do the kindly deed?

Comfort the one in need and help supply? You and I!

Jesus came to bring us Good News, sent to earth by God above!

And the Good News that He brought us is the word of love!

Who's goin' to feed the hungry? You and I!

Care for the sick and lonely? You and I!

Who's goin' to let the whole world see

People can live in harmony? Let's try, you and I!

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CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is Here

(Call to Worship sentences read by liturgists.)

HYMN

You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

HANOVER

***You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad Christ's wonderful name.***

***The name all victorious of Jesus extol,
whose kingdom is glorious, who rules over all.***

***Ascended on high, almighty to save,
he still remains nigh; his presence we have.***

***The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.***

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744, alt. P.D. TUNE: Anon.; A Supplement to the New Version of the Psalms, 1708 P.D.

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

Great God of all, we come into your presence
**humbled by your majesty, your righteousness, your love,
and ashamed of the many ways we fall short.**

You create us to live in community, yet we distance ourselves from one another.
**You call us to follow you, yet we shirk our responsibilities.
We expect much from you, and want to give little of ourselves.**

Turn us away from sin and toward you.
**Strengthen our faith and our obedience,
that our lives may show forth your praise.
In Christ's name we ask it. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Believe this truth: God's grace is more than enough for whatever you carry.
Live this truth: You are forgiven, loved, and free.
We will remember, rejoice, and be glad! Amen.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!***

TEXT: Fanny Jane Crosby, 1875 P.D. TUNE: William Howard Doane, 1875 P.D.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 3:1-21

The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Story We Tell"

Rev. Laura Viau

The Proclamation of the Gospel for the Salvation of Humankind

HYMN

This Is Our Life's Chief End

ST. THOMAS

***This is our life's chief end, our purpose and our goal:
to love and serve the Holy One with heart and strength and soul.
We go to tell the world what we have seen and heard.
This is the mission of the church: to speak God's saving word.***

Text: David Gambrell, © 2020 Music: *The Universal Psalmist*, 1763; adapt. Aaron Williams, 1770 P.D. Text reprinted with permission.

[For Shallotte Presbyterian Church, Shallotte, North Carolina. Based on Question One of the Westminster Shorter Catechism (Book of Confessions, 7.001), the Great Commandment (Deut. 6:5), and the Great Ends of the Church (Book of Order, F-1.0304).]

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

... we continue to gather together.

**Sitting in our homes, with our own supplies,
but linked together by the bits and bytes and cables.**

... as we eat together, from a distance.

Let us break bread together.

Opening

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Feel the wind of God blow in your lives.

Refreshing us, bringing in new air.

We offer the God who is in our every breath our prayers

**With the breath of God in us we share our fears, our hopes,
our dreams, our thanks.**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

... for the fellow creature with whom we share the world.

We sing songs and shout cries of praise and thanksgiving.

... We dare to share our dreams and visions...

We trust that you hear our prayers.

We trust that in love you hold them and answer them.

... we are not alone.

**We thank you for all those voices, filled with your Spirit, that have
shared your love and promise, who remind us of how you would have us
live within the world you have made.**

... we join in the cry of the ages:

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the Highest!

... Mary, raised in a backwater town,

he came out to share your vision for the world.

... he promised that we would not be left orphaned;

that an Advocate, the Holy Spirit, would be there to sustain us always.

... he returned to breathe hope and life into his fear-filled followers,
into us.

... drink it and remember me.

**And so, even all these years later, we continue to eat and drink and
remember, sharing in the meal of faith. Pledging, as we remember, to
follow the Way that Jesus laid out for us.**

Holy Spirit, you blow through closed doors and into the places where we are.

**You meet us in our homes and fill us with hope,
you light the fire of transformation in our hearts.**

As we pause to eat and drink this morning,

make us, while separate, unified in heart and hope.

In this bread and this cup may we meet the Risen Christ.

**In this meal of faith and transformation
may we feel the fire and wind of your Way.**

... unified in the common quest to share the dreams You have given us.

**Willing to offer what we have so that those dreams and visions
take shape in our world.**

... and who encouraged us to pray together saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven...

And all the people said:

AMEN!

... These are Gifts from God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Shall we eat and drink together?

Closing Prayer

... we have shared a meal together.

**Even while we remain physically separated,
we have been united in our souls.**

... across the centuries and miles change who we are.

**May it feed the fire in our bellies. May it strengthen us
when the storms blow through.**

... may we love and serve God, our neighbor, and ourselves.

So that the Way of Love is made real in our lives. Amen

HYMN

I Love to Tell the Story

HANKEY

*I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.*

Refrain:

*I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

(continues on next page)

*I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word.*

Refrain:

*I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

CLOSING RESPONSE *Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen* SURGE ECCLESIA
Gail Thomas, soprano; Alberta Gisel, alto; Ken Curry, tenor; Chad Hammer, bass
Alleluia, alleluia: Christ, our present, past, and goal.

TEXT: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1997 TUNE: Timothy J. Strand
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Rev. Laura Viau, Interim Pastor (laurabviau@gmail.com)

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PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL. ☺