



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

15th Sunday after Pentecost | September 13, 2020

NOTE: For this service of communion, you may want to have some bread or crackers and some kind of juice.

PRELUDE *God of the Sparrow* arr. Carl F. Schalk
Gail Thomas, Alberta Gisel, Wayne Tillman, Chad Hammer, vocal quartet

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

God's promise is for all generations. Gen. 9:12

God's covenant is with every living thing.

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

Let us worship in thanks and praise.

HYMN *This Is My Father's World* TERRA BEATA

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears

all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought

of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, his hand the wonders wrought.

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

... to be with us **always**,

to love us **no matter what**,

to forgive us **whenever we ask**.

... your promises keep, your covenants hold.

For in Jesus Christ, your faithfulness is proven.

God, like those before us,

sometimes we forget our covenant relationship with you.

When we bow before the false gods of our world,

forgive our unfaithfulness and bring our focus back to you.

When we make "golden calves" of the things we have,

forgive our waywardness and remind us to share what we have with others.

To the fulness of your promise, we pray:

create anew, restore, enlighten, and forgive us, Lord. Amen.

HYMN

This Is My Father's World

TERRA BEATA

***This is my Father's world. O, let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world. The battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.***

TEXT: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901. P.D. MUSIC: Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915. P.D.>

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

My friends, hear these words, and receive their power:
God the Father promises to restore the old and create the new.
God the Son forgives our thoughtlessness and greed.
God the Spirit enlightens our way to wiser living.
Thanks be to God. 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

Genesis 2:4b-7, 15-17; 3:1-8

Powell, Betsy, Sarah & Jim Braddock, liturgists

SERMON

"Back to the Very Beginning"

Rev. Laura Viau

HYMN

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

***Breathe on me, Breath of God; until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.***

TEXT Edwin Hatch, 1878 P.D. MUSIC: Robert Jackson, 1888 P.D.

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.**

... from a distance. **Let us break bread together.**

Opening

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

... you taught us faithful love,

keeping your promises to us even when we turned away from you.

... we are not alone.

We thank you for all those voices that have shared your love and promise.

May they continue to 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!

Remembering

... do this in remembrance of 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.

Invoking

... Meet us in our homes **and fill us with hope.**

Nourish us with your grace

so that we are strengthened to do your work in this world;

unite us with you **so that we are renewed;**

and join us with your covenant people throughout time and space

so that all divisions will be healed.

... who encouraged us to pray together saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven...

And all the people said: **AMEN!**

Breaking and Pouring

... These are Gifts from God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer After Meal

... we have shared a meal together. **Even while we remain physically separated, we have been united in our souls.**

Let us pray: Loving God, by your Spirit, build us up in faith, hope, and love: faith **that we be steadfast;**

hope **that we may never give up;**

and love **that we may serve the hungry, poor, and suffering.**

Send us into the world to work for justice and peace.

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

*Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
 listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
 resting in my Savior as my all in all,
 standing on the promises of God.
 Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
 Standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.*

TEXT and MUSIC R. Kelso Carter, 1886. *P.D.*

BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

CLOSING RESPONSE

Alleluia! Laud, and Blessing

WEIRS FLAGGEN

Jasmine Braxton, acolyte

Alleluia! Laud and blessing to our God, whose Word is sure;
 May God's promise to be faithful echo through our songs of praise!.

TEXT: Michael Morgan, 2011. MUSIC: Tochter Sion, 1741. Text © 2011 Michael Morgan (admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources)
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We are thankful for the flowers this morning. They are given by **Patsy Calhoun** in loving memory of **Bob Calhoun**.

Rev. Laura Viau, Interim Pastor (laurabviau@gmail.com)

Randy Warner, Liturgy and Music Associate and Accompanist;
Kathy Sasso, 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. ☺