



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

17th Sunday after Pentecost | September 27, 2020

PRELUDE

(Untitled Hymn) "Come to Jesus"

Chris Rise

Linda Landis, solo **(CD listeners will experience a l-o-n-g silence before the song)**

(I have known Linda as a musician and friend for a long time. She sang at my first church in Ohio when I had brown hair and my last church when I had gray. There's at least one verse in this song for each of us—no matter where we are in life. "Come to Jesus and live" for God always works for good. R.W.)

Weak and wounded sinner, lost and left to die
Raise your head for Love is passing by.
Come to Jesus, come to Jesus. Come to Jesus and live

Now your burden's lifted and carried far away
And precious blood has washed away the stain
So sing to Jesus, sing to Jesus Sing to Jesus and live

And like a newborn baby, don't be afraid to crawl
And remember when you walk, sometimes you fall
So fall on Jesus, fall on Jesus Fall on Jesus and live

Sometimes the way is lonely and steep and filled with pain
So if your sky is dark and pours the rain
Then cry to Jesus, cry to Jesus Cry to Jesus and live

And when the love spills over and music fills the night
And when you can't contain your joy inside
Then dance for Jesus, dance for Jesus Dance for Jesus and live

And with your final heartbeat, kiss the world goodbye
Then go in peace, and laugh on Glory's side
And fly to Jesus Fly to Jesus Fly to Jesus and live
Fly to Jesus Fly to Jesus Fly to Jesus and live.

TEXT & TUNE by Christ Rice. Reprinted with permission under CCLI: #1660168

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ken & Jeanne Curry, liturgists

*(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

For You, My God, I Wait

DENNIS

For you, my God, I wait with hope born of the Word.

Like sleepless ones who long to dream I wait and call my Lord.

O God, you are my hope; I know that you forgive.

Your love redeems me from the depths so I may rise and live.

TEXT: Adam M. L. Tice, 2003 TUNE: Johann Georg Nägeli, 1828. Text © 2011 GIA Publications, Inc.
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PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

We praise you, creating God!
Your breath gives life,
your love, given freely, sustains it.

We praise you, promise making God!
You promise to be with us **always**,
to love us **no matter what**,
to forgive us **whenever we ask**.

We praise you, promise keeping God!
Both then and now, 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.

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)

Gail Thomas, Alberta Gisel, Wayne Tillman, Chad Hammer, vocal quartet

***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 37:3-8, 17b-22, 26-34; 50:15- 21

SERMON

“A Long and Winding Road”

Rev. Laura Viau

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from, A Brief Statement of Faith)

**We trust in God,
whom Jesus called Abba, Father.**

**In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.**

**But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.**

**Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.**

**Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.**

**Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.**

**Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

**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.**

HYMN

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE

*There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.*

*For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.*

TEXT: Frederick William Faber, 1854, alt. MUSIC Dutch melody. P.D.

BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

CLOSING RESPONSE

Alleluia! Laud, and Blessing

WEIRS FLAGGEN

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 Zion, 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 **Laura Viau** in loving memory of **Bonnie Holloway**.

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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