



# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

16th Sunday after Pentecost | September 12, 2021

Livestream at 10:00 AM.

*\*Indicates where it is appropriate, but not necessary, to stand.*

*All speak words in **boldface**.*

## CALLED BY GOD WE GATHER

GATHERING MUSIC, WELCOME, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Gather and greet each other in joy.)*

RINGING OF THE TRINITY AND CALLED TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

*(When the chimes toll, let us silently open our spirit to God's presence in our midst.)*

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

arr. Kevin McChesney

SPC Handbell Ringers

OPENING SENTENCES

God, you call each of us to serve you, and we answer,

**"Here I am!"**

Jesus, you call each of us to follow you, and we answer,

**"Here I am!"**

Holy Spirit, you call all of us to worship you this day,

**and we answer, "Here we are!"**

\*HYMN

*Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

DARWALL'S 148TH

***Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!***

***For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!***

***In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!***

***Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,  
empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!***

***In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!***

TEXT: Brian Dill, 1988 MUSIC: John Darwall, 1770 Text © 1989 Brian Dill Printed with permission.

\*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

Heavenly Parent, you have called us your children.

And through Jesus

you have invited us into new life

and onto new pathways.

When we first decide to come and see,

your grace sparkles.

The newness of our relationship

compels us to linger in your presence.

As we take to the road with Jesus,

following, listening, learning, practicing,

you send your Spirit to accompany us.

And yet, there are so many other pursuits that call out to us.

When following you becomes difficult,

we seek an easier path.

We forget who we are,

and where we are meant to abide.

But here, now, in your presence again,

we choose to be honest

with ourselves and you.

In the presence of our family of faith,

we confess the ways we have grieved you,

by wasting your gifts, by wandering from your ways.

*(Time of Silent Confession)*

Gracious God,

**give us strength to follow you, wherever you might lead.**

**When we tire, renew our strength.**

**When we flag, breathe deep into us.**

**When we meander, bring us back.**

**When we question, grant us clarity.**

**Called to come and see, then go and tell,**

**help us to follow in faith. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Friends, we are followers of Jesus,  
yet we stumble and fall along the way.  
The good news is that  
Jesus does not condemn us,  
but lifts us up to continue the journey.  
Through the grace of Jesus Christ,  
we are forgiven and loved. Amen.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.**

\*HANDBELL RESPONSE OF PRAISE

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

arr. Kevin McChesney

## TO HEAR GOD'S WORD OF GRACE

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:35-50

MUSIC

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

arr. Randy Warner

"I have decided to follow Jesus; no turning back, no turning back."

SERMON

"Come and See!"

Rev. Laura Viau

## TO RESPOND IN FAITH WITH GRATITUDE

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

When Jesus says, "Come and see!"  
he invites us  
to follow him to find God;  
to follow him and save the world God loves,  
not to condemn it;  
to follow him and show that God is love.  
Never mind what people say.  
Whoever you are, however you come,  
and whatever you have or have not done,  
Jesus welcomes you at this table.  
For this feast is around God's table;  
where all who seek to journey with Christ are welcome;  
where together we practice being one, in Christ.  
The table is set. All is ready.  
Come and see – taste and see – the goodness of God!

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy

to give you thanks and praise, O God.  
We praise you, O God,  
who raised your voice  
and sang your Spirit over the chaos of creation  
to make all that is beautiful and good  
and precious in your sight.  
We rejoice in you, O God,  
who gave songs to the prophets,  
melodies to the people  
who you saved from flood and fire and famine.  
We celebrate you, O God,  
who David delighted in dance and poetry,  
who Miriam gave glory with cymbal and drum.  
We worship you, O God,  
with all saints and angels from every time and place,  
gathering our hearts and voices to sing to the glory of your name.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

From the melodies in our hearts  
and the songs in our souls,  
we give thanks and praise  
to our savior Jesus the Christ.  
Cooing into silent nights,  
Jesus entered the world amongst the lowly.  
Chanting songs of freedom,  
Jesus proclaimed good news to the captive.  
Calling forth from the tombs,  
Jesus granted new life to people claimed by death.  
Wailing and weeping,  
Jesus understood the stress and sorrow of a broken world.  
Frolicking around wells and streams,

Jesus opened hearts to Living Water.  
Dancing through death,  
Jesus invites us to proclaim life in death's bitter sting.  
So we come to this table with deep joy and humble gratitude,  
for we know that:

Breaking bread, Jesus feeds us  
with a hunger for justice.

Pouring cup, Jesus invites us  
to join into the song of salvation.

Come, Holy Spirit, and stir in our hearts,  
for the one who called us to the table  
calls us to sing and dance.

Teach us the music,  
guide us in the footsteps,  
empower us to join in the celebration  
and invite all we see to do the same.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,  
through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
may all glory and honor be yours, O Lord of the Dance,  
who taught us to pray by saying:

**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.**

Words of Institution (*Adding motions*)

Now, let us remember the story of how this sacrament began.

When Jesus was at table with his disciples  
he took bread, blessed and broke it,  
and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat.  
Whenever you do this, remember me.

In the same way he took and poured the cup,  
saying: Take and drink.

Whenever you do this, remember me.

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Communion

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, we thank you  
that you have nourished us at this table  
and united us with Christ.  
Send us from this place  
to help one another mature and grow as disciples,  
practicing life together.  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**TO DEPART BLESSED TO SERVE**

\*HYMN

*Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

DARWALL'S 148TH

***Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,  
as we in mission magnify the Crucified!***

***In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now***

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\*BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

CLOSING MUSIC



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