



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

17th Sunday after Pentecost | September 19, 2021

*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.)

Together We Serve

Daniel Charles Damon

*"Together we serve, united by love,
inviting God's world to the glorious feast.
We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,
extending God's love to the last and the least."*

OPENING SENTENCES

Vicki Chadwick & Wayne Tillman, liturgists

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

All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with silver gleam, sing praises!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

**All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain or sorrow grieve,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
so, even in the midst of tears, sing praises!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

TEXT: Francis of Assisi; trans. composite, PD MUSIC: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623 PD

*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.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE *All Creatures of Our God and King* LASST UNS ERFREUEN

O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!

Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

❖ **To Hear God's Word of Grace** ❖

OLD TESTAMENT READING Deuteronomy 6:4-9

MUSIC *People Need the Lord* arr. John Purifoy

NEW TESTAMENT READING Ephesians 4:11-16

SERMON "Come and Participate"
Joyce Winkler, Qualified Ruling Elder

❖ **To Respond in Faith with Gratitude** ❖

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.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

❖ To Depart Blessed to Serve ❖

*HYMN

Called As Partners in Christ's Service

ODE TO JOY

***Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.***

***Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.***

***Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.***

TEXT: Jane Parker Huber, 1981 MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870 PD Text © 1981 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)
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*BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

CLOSING MUSIC



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