

Celtic Evenson  
TRINITY United Methodist Church  
AUGUST 27, 2023, 5 P.M.



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## Welcome and Prayer for the Evening

Neil Hough

As you have made this day, O God,  
you also make the night.  
Give light for our comfort.  
Come upon us with quietness and still our souls  
that we may listen for the whisper of your Spirit  
and be attentive to your nearness in our dreams.  
Empower us to rise again in new life to proclaim your praise,  
and show Christ to the world. Amen.

## Prelude

*Be Thou My Vision*

Trad. Irish melody

## Call to Worship

Taehwan Roh

Come, and praise God!  
In the company of the God's people,  
let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
Great are the works of God,  
full of glory and majesty.  
Our God is gracious and compassionate;  
our God is merciful and forgiving,  
our God is faithful and trustworthy,  
our God is just and good.  
So come, let's worship God together.  
God's praise will last forever!

## Prayers of the People

Taehwan Roh

Gracious God, eternal God, you have led us to curiosity  
about our creation, ourselves, and all things unknown.  
Let us never lose our sense of wonder about the world you have given us.

God of Abraham and Sarah,  
you lead us to new understandings when we least expect them.  
Let us never see ourselves as too young, too old, or too wise  
to learn new lessons from you.

God of the prophets,  
you call us to speak truth with love to a reluctant world.  
Give us courage to judge ourselves,  
and wisdom to learn from those you send to teach us.

God of the rich young ruler,  
you love us though we shrink from the challenge of discipleship.  
Teach us to surrender our own wills,  
that we might seek yours and draw closer to your grace.

Everlasting, everloving God, teacher, creator,  
giver of knowledge and freedom, fear and courage, doubt and faith,  
grant that we might always use your gifts to build a world  
where peace, justice, love, and hope reign in wisdom and in truth. Amen.

## **Musical Response**

### **Scripture Reading**

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

**Neil Hough**

And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

### **Music for Meditation**

*Teach Your Children*

Nash

### **Message**

*Getting Out of God's Way*

**Neil Hough**

### **Music for Reflection**

*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

African American spiritual

### **Reading**

*Praise the Source of Faith and Learning*

**Taehwan Roh**

Praise the source of faith and learning  
that has sparked and stoked the mind  
with a passion for discerning  
how the world has been designed.  
Let the sense of wonder flowing  
from the wonders we survey  
keep our faith forever growing  
and renew our need to pray.

God of wisdom we acknowledge  
that our science and our art

and the breadth of human knowledge  
only partial truth impart.  
Far beyond our calculation  
lies a depth we cannot sound  
where your purpose for creation  
and the pulse of life are found.

May our faith redeem the blunder  
of believing that our thought  
has displaced the grounds for wonder  
which the ancient prophets taught.  
May our learning curb the error  
which unthinking faith can breed  
lest we justify some terror  
with an antiquated creed.

As two currents in a river  
fight each other's undertow,  
till converging they deliver  
one coherent steady flow,  
blend, O God, our faith and learning  
till they carve a single course,  
till they join as one, returning  
praise and thanks to you, the Source.

~ words by Thomas Troeger

### **Blessing**

**Neil Hough**

Go this day in peace.  
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.  
Amen.

### **Postlude**

*Day by Day*

**Schwartz**

Scripture quotations taken from The Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version.  
Prayers and readings are adapted from *The United Methodist Book of Worship* and *The Faith We Sing*  
hymnbook.

*Liturgists: Neil Hough  
Taehwan Roh*

*Keyboard: Diane Pelak*

*Hammered Dulcimer: Jody Marshall*