FAITH FOCUS SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 6, 2022
11:00 AM

CHURCH LIFE UPDATE — Margaret LaMotte Torrence

PRELUDE — *Meditation for Violin and Piano: Earth Tones* (Marcus Ratzenboeck and Steven Phillips) — Steven Phillips

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** — Psalm 89: 1-2, 11, 14

Mariah Martin

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, for ever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

**I declare that your steadfast love is established for ever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

The heavens are yours, the earth also is yours;
the world and all that is in it—you have founded them.

**Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;
steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.**

*** HYMN 1** — *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!* — Nicaea

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION — Margaret LaMotte Torrence

**God of abundance:
of wedding wine and swollen nets
and baskets full after all have eaten—
we are quick to despair when we come up empty,
when the ways we know are not enough.**

**We need to confess
that we have wasted and abused what you pronounced good;
we have poisoned and soiled what gave you delight.**

**In mercy, grant us the courage to see our choices
in the light of your love, and the faithfulness to follow
wherever you would lead.**

(silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* *Those who are able are invited to stand.*

***SONG OF JOY 608** Praise God (Hopson)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST** Margaret LaMotte Torrence

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Mariah Martin

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 6:1-8 Mariah Martin

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 5:1-11 Rev. Dr. Neddy Astudillo

SERMON Rev. Dr. Neddy Astudillo

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Lamentations 3:21-24
Mariah Martin

But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
"The Lord is my portion," says my soul;
"therefore I will hope in him."

***HYMN 5** *God the Sculptor of the Mountains* Jennings-Houston

God the sculptor of the mountains,
God the miller of the sand,
God the jeweler of the heavens,
God the potter of the land:
You are womb of all creation;
We are formless; shape us now.

God the nuisance of the Pharaoh,
God the cleaver of the sea,
God the pillar in the darkness,
God the beacon of the free:
You are fount of all deliverance;
We are aimless; lead us now.

God the dresser of the vineyard,
God the planter of the wheat,
God the reaper of the harvest,
God the source of all we eat:
You are host at every table;
We are hungry; feed us now.

God the unexpected infant,
God the calm, determined youth,
God the table-turning prophet,
God the resurrected truth:
You are present every moment;
We are searching; meet us now.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER Margaret LaMotte Torrence

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Sisters and brothers,
If we are to run with perseverance the race that is before us,
We will need strength beyond our own.
It can be found at this table.
Here Jesus asks us to feed on his love, his courage, his persistent presence.

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.

Author of life,
In every chapter of your people's story
You blessed us that we might be a blessing.
You asked us to tend your world.

And every time we wandered from your way,
you sent prophets and poets and priests
to remind us of our holy charge.
When still we would not listen, your mercy took flesh.
You came to dwell among us in fearless love.

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with every grateful, hopeful generation:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

In the fullness of time, your fierce and tender love took flesh.
You did not come in wrath, but as the Holy One among us.
You bent down to us. You healed us, and fed us—
until the scandal of your love was more than we could bear
and we handed you over, not knowing what we did.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

Breath of Life,
move now in this place; make known your power in this simple meal.

As we eat this bread, give us your hunger for justice.
As we drink this cup, grant us your thirst for life.
For we pray as Jesus taught us, 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.

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

ANTHEM *Deep and Lasting Peace* Michael Joncas
(The Chancel Choir)

PRAYER OF RESPONSE

***HYMN 757** *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples* Kingsfold

Today we all are called to be disciples of the Lord,
To help to set the captive free, make plowshare out of sword,
To feed the hungry, quench their thirst, make love and peace our fast,
To serve the poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.

God made the world and at its birth ordained our human race
To live as stewards of the earth, responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud; we sow not peace but strife.
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,
With righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,
A world that was created for a harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God act out the living word,
And walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord
To God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.

***BENEDICTION** Rev. Austidillo

POSTLUDE *Hornpipe from Water Music* Handel
(Marcus Ratzenboeck and Steven Phillips)

We welcome guest violinist **Marcus Ratzenboek,** who is concertmaster of The Venice Symphony. Marcus is a composer, producer, and touring artist of much acclaim, and we're honored to have him lead in worship today.