



Faith

Online Worship Resources (Sunday, August 2, 2020)

BOLD TYPE IS SPOKEN BY THE CONGREGATION

Prelude: BE THOU MY VISION Irish Ballad arr. H. Hopson
Jane Kerr, Organist

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship Heidi Christensen, Liturgist

God cares for us completely and calls for our total commitment.

Christ gave his life that we might live and calls us to give our lives to him.

Through Christ we have died to sin;

In Christ we are fully alive to God.

Come, Let us worship the Lord!

Opening Hymn: “God of Great and God of Small”

God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,

God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things belong,

Alleluia, Alleluia, praise be to your name.

God of silence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,

God of day and darkest night, God whose love turns wrong to right,

Alleluia, Alleluia, praise be to your name.

God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,

God of now and days before, God who reigns forevermore,

Alleluia, Alleluia, praise be to your name.

Passing the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Pastoral Prayer

Children's Time

Prayer for Illumination

Let us prepare our hearts to hear God's Word by praying together the Prayer for Illumination:

O God, you have the power to make a desert a place of renewal and a cross a sign of redemption. Through the power of your Spirit, enable us to hear you and entrust ourselves completely to you. For the sake of Christ, we pray.

Amen.

Scripture Reading: Genesis 21:8-21

⁸The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. ⁹But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. ¹⁰So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." ¹¹The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. ¹²But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. ¹³As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring." ¹⁴So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

¹⁵When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. ¹⁶Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. ¹⁷And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. ¹⁸Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him."

¹⁹ Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

²⁰ God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. ²¹ He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Hagars Among Us

Rev. Michelle Fincher

Hymn After Sermon: “All Are Welcome”

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone To heal and strengthen, serve and teach and live the Word they've known.

Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face,

Let us bring an end to fear and danger:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard, And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;

Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter,

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Prayer of Dedication

Please join me as we pray together:

Holy One, in thanks and praise we celebrate the life we receive from you through Jesus Christ. You have shown that your mercy overcomes sin and evil and brings relief from oppression. We thank you for your steadfast love that keeps covenant with your people. In Christ we know the depth of your care for all that you create. We invite the Holy Spirit to help us so that we can praise you eternally, with our lives as well as our lips. Amen.

Sharing the Lord's Supper

Call to Confession:

Sin destroys our lives. Sin destroys our relationships. Sin destroys our hope. But through faith in Jesus Christ, our lives, our relationships, and our future are no longer enslaved to sin. Let us trust the love of God and confess our sin, that we might receive grace and find true freedom. Let us pray together...

Prayer of Confession:

God of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac, God of Hagar and Ishmael, send your Holy Spirit to help us confess and truly repent of our sins: that we turn against one another; we fail to care for the weak and poor among us; we pay no heed to the cries of the powerless; we seek our own advantage. Your Son emptied himself upon a cross, revealing your eternal, self-giving love. Forgive us, merciful God. Wipe sin from our lives and let us find ourselves wholly in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

God, who loves us, does not abandon or forsake us. Our Loving, Eternal Parent hears and answers when we cry out from our sin.

Death cannot bind us, for the risen Christ sets us free. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise....

Prayer after Communion

Benediction

Postlude: THERE IS A REDEEMER

*There is a Redeemer, Jesus God's own Son;
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.*

*Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.*

*Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain.*

*Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.*

Today's Worship Participants:

Rev. Michelle Fincher, Jane Kerr, organist, Judy Viccellio, guitar,
David Maley, piano, Heidi Christensen, liturgist,
Gene Kendall and Glenn Fahrig, technology team