Liturgy for July 5th – 6th Sunday after Pentecost – Communion Sunday
Zoom Worship 10 AM

Welcome and Announcements **Dr. Eniko Ferenczy**

Gathering Words **Rev. Jim Collier and Jannelle Collier**

Come to our God, all who hunger for life:
for it is God who nourishes us at the Table of Grace
Come to our God, all who are worn out by life:
for it is God who provides the rest we need.
Come to our God, all who are weighed down:
for it is our God who carries our burdens with us.

Opening Prayer

We come to you, O God, fretful, agitated, longing for more,
We spend our lives in a never-ending, never-fulfilled search for that which satisfies.

Sing a song of silence to our noisy hearts.
Help us find the peace that you give within your outstretched arms that embrace us.

We confess that we like to stay in control, to take charge. Trained to be efficient, we create harried, stress-filled lives. Worried for not having enough for ourselves, we forget others, even keep them from having a fair chance at life by what we do and what we leave undone.

Forgive us, Shalom-giving One.
Reveal your ways to life in the abundance of your grace and mercy for us,
In the goodness of your heart,
in the truthfulness of your teaching word,
in the peace of your shared yoke.

Spirit of Rest, open our eyes to the wonders of the world.
Give us wisdom to choose which burden to carry:
hate or love; anger or forgiveness; pain or peace.
Help us to claim your gifts of love, forgiveness and grace
so that we may live joyful lives of faithful obedience to you.
In your holy name we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn: God, You Spin the Whirling Planets – Glory to God 23
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AI Come BLIuQn8ybA

God You spin the whirling planets
Fill the seas and spread the plain
Mold the mountains fashion blossoms

Call forth sunshine wind and rain
We created in your image
Would a true reflection be
Of Your justice grace and mercy
And the truth that makes us free

You have called us to be faithful
In our life and ministry
We respond in grateful worship
Joined in one community
When we blur Your gracious image
Focus us and make us whole
Healed and strengthened as Your people
We move onward toward Your goal

God Your will is still creating
Calling us to life made new
Now reveal to us fresh vistas
Where there's work to dare and do
Keep us clear of all distortion
Fashion us with loving care
Thus new creatures in Your image
We'll proclaim Christ everywhere

Prayer of Illumination **Dr. Eniko Ferenczy**

Scripture Reading **Matthew 11:1-6, 16-17, 20-24, 28-30**

1 Now when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and proclaim his message in their presence.
2 When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples 3 and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" 4 Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5 the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. 6 And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

16 "But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,
17 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

20 Then he began to reproach the cities in which most of his deeds of power had been done, because they did not repent. 21 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. 22

But I tell you, on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. 23 And you, Capernaum,
will you be exalted to heaven?
No, you will be brought down to Hades.
For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. 24 But I tell you that on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom than for you."

28 "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Sermon **Recalibrating Our Lives: The Yoke We Choose** **Dr. Eniko Ferenczy**

Hymn: I Come with Joy – Glory to God 515
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b8LcEE14P78

I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
in love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends.

The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here.

Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one.

Communion **Dr. Eniko Ferenczy**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God be with you.
And also with you.
People of God, lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the One who invites us to rest in the heart of the Trinity.
People of God, give thanks to the One who offers you rest.
We bring our thanksgiving to God, who sings to us of peace.

With hearts filled with joy, we bring our praise to you, God of Rest.

For on the first morning of creation, you whispered peace into the cacophony of chaos
and it was stilled, and all creation sang of your goodness.

Created to find our peace with you, our fretful desire to be in control
led us into a nomadic existence of rebellion against you.
Prophets spoke and angels sang to invite us home,
but our stubborn pride only grew stronger.

When the burden of our sin became too great for your heart,
you sent Jesus to carry it for us.

Watching our restless striving for more and more,
Jesus modeled the life of self-denial and service.
Seeing us weighed down with the burdens of sin and death,
Jesus offered us to share in his yoke, willing to take on our burdens,
Willing even to die, to unsettle the powers of sin and death over us,
to give us life anew.

Pour out your Spirit of rest and shalom upon this bread and this cup,
that these gifts may nourish us.
As we find our rest in you,
may we become restless in service to your children;
as we engage with you in solitude,
may we build a community of justice and righteousness;
as we listen to your silence,
may we speak out for all whose voices are ignored by the world.

Then, when we gather with all
who have found their rest with you
at the Table of the Lamb,
we will sing our praise for all eternity,
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

Invitation to Offering

Closing Hymn: What a Friend We Have in Jesus – Glory to God 465
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z9rrtgwRsfk

What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear
And what a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer

Oh, what peace we often forfeit
Oh, what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Benediction **Dr. Eniko Ferenczy**

*Note: Gathering Words and the Great Prayer of Thanksgiving adapted from Thom Shuman