Westminster Presbyterian Church

June 27, 2021
5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Prelude "Au Soir" Charles Widor
Kenneth Shafer, organ

Welcome and Announcements **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Gathering Words* **Janelle Collier**

We are from north and south.
We are from tiny apartments and expansive homes.
We are from this city and from others far away.
We are from big families and dinners made for one.
We are from stages of grief and stages of love.
We are from hot summers and cold winters.
We are from kitchens with passed down recipes,
and front porches with old, familiar swings.
We are from the dust of the earth and the stars of the sky.
We are from a lot of places, but today we are here.
Today we are together.
Holy God, gather us in.

Opening Prayer* **Janelle Collier**

God of grace, may this be the place.

May this be the place for connection and growth, for community and hope.
May this be the place for questions like,
"Where are you from?" and "What do you need?"
For whispers of: "I've been thinking of you,"
and "I've been meaning to ask…"
May this be the place because all belong here.
All are welcome here.
All hurt and joy, needs and prayers, dreams and love, are welcome here.

May this be the place, O God,
for in this place, you are near.
Amen.

Opening Hymn* A Covenant of Grace O WALY WALY
Pong Thiemmedh, Guitar

Prayer of Confession/Truth Telling **Jim Collier**

When people heard that Jesus was from Nazareth,
they asked, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?"
We confess, God of beginnings, that we have asked the same question.
Can anything good come from that side of town?
From a school with poor test scores?
From a criminal history?
From the opposite political party?
From a history of addiction?
From a faith with doubt?
From a church with faults?
Holy God, forgive us for doubting that you are in all things at all times.
Open our eyes to see your goodness,
not as something that resides here or there, but as the expansive grace that it is.
Can anything good come from there?
Yes. Always yes. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness **Jim Collier**

Family of faith, if you ever ask yourself,
"Can anything good come from this messy and human life of mine?"
Remember this: God is always whispering, "Yes."

You were created in the image of God.
Your origin story is one of goodness and love from the very beginning.
So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

God is here. God is at work among us.
We are forgiven. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

Passing of the Peace*

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Musical Response "Cathedral Prayer" James Southbridge
Kenneth Shafer, organ

Prayer of Illumination **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Scripture Reading John 1:35-51

35 The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, 36 and as he watched Jesus walk by, he
exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" 37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.
38 When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him,
"Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" 39 He said to them, "Come and see." They

came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. [40]One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. [41]He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). [42]He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

[43]The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." [44]Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. [45]Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus, son of Joseph from Nazareth." [46]Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." [47]When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" [48]Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." [49]Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" [50]Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." [51]And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Sermon **I've Been Meaning to Ask: Where Are You From?** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**
Part Two: Be Curious

Hymn No. 308* O God in Whom All Life Begins NOEL

1 O God in whom all life begins,
who births the seed to fruit,
bestow your blessing on our lives;
here let your love find root.
Bring forth in us the Spirit's gifts
of patience, joy, and peace;
deliver us from numbing fear,
and grant our faith increase.

2 Unite in mutual ministry
our minds and hands and hearts
that we may have the grace to seek
the power your peace imparts.
So let our varied gifts combine
to glorify your Name
that in all things by word and deed
we may your love proclaim.

3 Through tears and laughter, grief and joy,
enlarge our trust and care;
so bind us in community
that we may risk and dare.
Be with us when we gather here
to worship, sing, and pray;
then send us forth in power and faith
to live the words we say.

Prayer of the People **Jim Collier**

We pray in the name of the One who is to come, Jesus the Christ, who taught us to pray together:

Our Mother and Father in heaven, holy is your name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done, on earth as is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn No. 451* Open My Eyes, That I May See OPEN MY EYES

1 Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes; illumine me,
Spirit divine!

2 Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear.
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears; illumine me,
Spirit divine!

3 Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere.
Open my heart, and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart; illumine me,
Spirit divine!

Benediction* **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Postlude Postlude on Darwall's 148th Lani Smith
Kenneth Shafer, organ

***** Please stand if you are able.

To assure the safety of all, currently we are not passing the offering plates. They are in the back of the sanctuary. We invite you to place your gifts there. Thank you for your generosity!

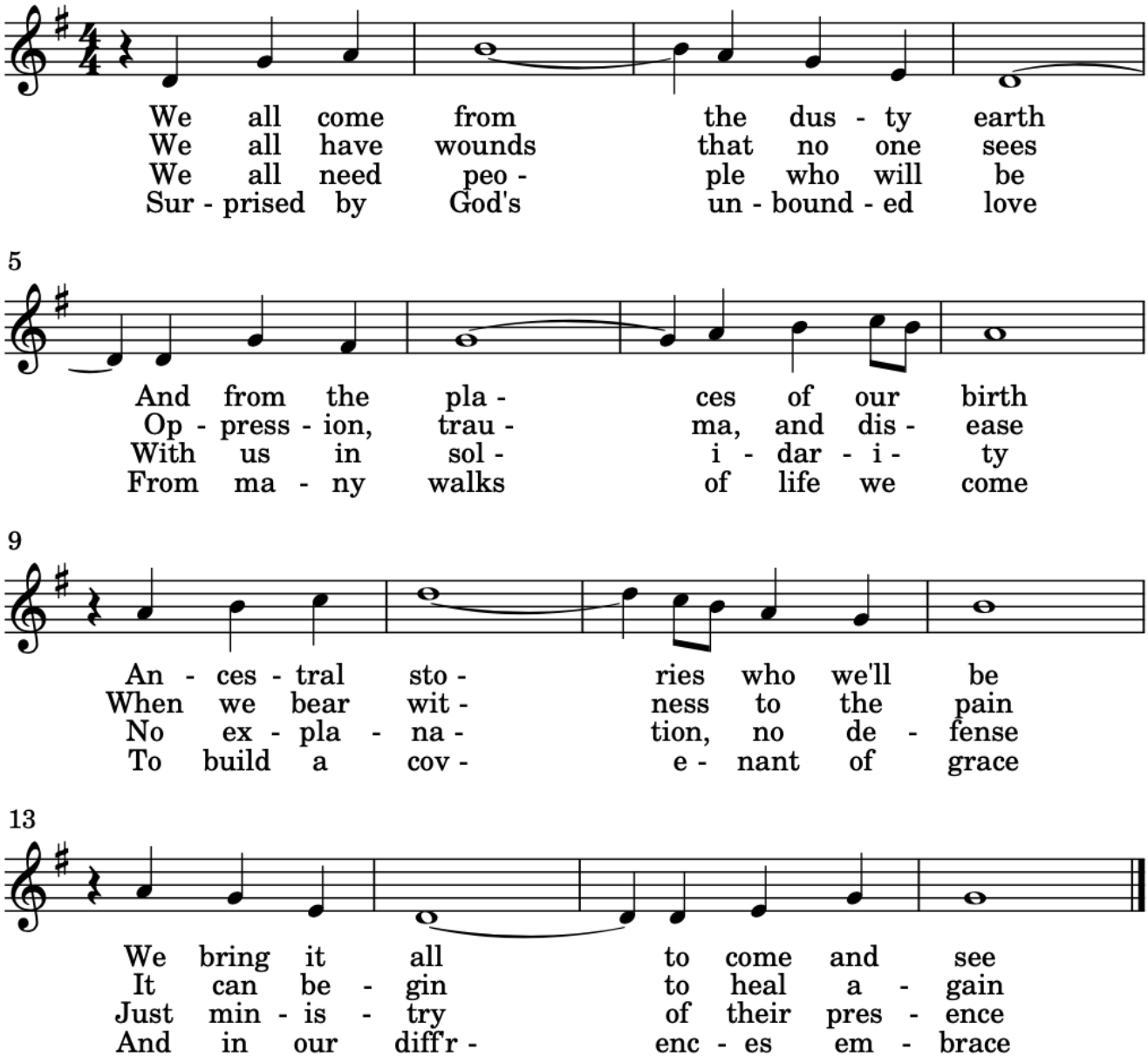
Note: Prayers were adapted from *Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.*
Music: Ken Shafer – Organ, Pong Thiemmedh – Guitar

Flowers provided by Dorothy Iams.

A Covenant of Grace

O WALY WALY (8.8.8.8)

Text: Anna Strickland (2021) Music: Traditional English melody



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