

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sunday, August 22, 2021 | The God Who Cares About Our Future

<b>Gathering Music</b>	J. Noel Lance
<b>Greeting</b>	Rev. Allison Benfield
<b>Church Conference</b>	Sally Young
<b>Prayer of Submission</b>	Rev. Benfield
<b>Call to Worship</b>	Rev. Benfield

ONE: Diverse in culture, nation, race, we come together  
by Your grace.

**ALL: God, let us be a meeting ground where hope and  
healing love are found.**

## **\*Hymn of Praise**

Chalice Hymnal No. 485, verse 1

*Diverse in Culture, Nations Race*

TALLIS CANON

Diverse in culture, nation, race, we come together by Your grace.  
God, let us be a meeting ground where hope and healing love are found.

## **Reading from the Gospel of John**

*John 17:16-26*

Kathy Bragg

And Jesus prayed: "And now I am no longer in the world, but my disciples are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth. I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

ONE: This is the written word of God, for the people of God.

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

## **Song of Response**

*Diverse in Culture, Nations Race*

Chancel Choir

God, let us be a bridge of care,  
connecting people everywhere.  
Help us confront all fear and hate  
and lust for power that separate.

*Meeting Abid* by Randy Edwards

God, let us be a table spread  
with gifts of love and broken bread,  
where all find welcome, grace attends,  
and enemies arise as friends.



**The Church at Prayer & the Lord's Prayer**

Rev. Nate Dove

**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.**

**Prayer Concerns**

The people of Haiti and Afghanistan,  
Andrew Adair, Carol Drye, Betty Fuller, Polly Hull,  
Tish Philemon, Gene & Carol Poole, Elma Thomas

**Offertory**

*Friends (Medley)*

J. Noel Lance

arr. Marilyn Ham

**\*Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God all creatures here below;  
praise God above ye heavenly host:  
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Message**

Rev. Lee Gray

*On Being One*

**Song of Community**

*One Voice*

Mallory Brown, Karen Moegerle,  
Janet Jones & J. Kevin Gray

The Wailin' Jennys  
This is the sound of one voice,  
one spirit, one voice,  
the sound of one who makes a choice,  
this is the sound of one voice,  
this is the sound of one voice.

This is the sound of voices two,  
the sound of me, singing with you,  
helping each other to make it through,  
this is the sound of voices two,  
this is the sound of voices two.

This is the sound of voices three,  
singing together in harmony,  
surrendering to the mystery,  
this is the sound of voices three,  
this is the sound of voices three.

**ALL**

**This is the sound of all of us,  
singing with love and the will to trust,  
leave the rest behind, it'll turn to dust,  
this is the sound of all of us,  
this is the sound of all of us.**

**Commissioning the Scattered Church**

Rev. Gray

**Song of Parting**

*They'll Know We Are Christians*

Chalice Hymn No. 494, verse 1

ST. BRENDAN'S

**LEADER**

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;  
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;  
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored;  
and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

**ALL**

**We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;  
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;  
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored;  
and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

**Postlude**

J. Noel Lance