FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Summer Worship

September 4, 2022

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Poem Mystic — Richard Purvis

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are children of God, children of creation.
People: Children of Earth, fire, wind, and water.
Leader: We gather to worship, we gather in community.
People: In the community of earth and spirit, let us worship God.

*GATHERING HYMN — #288

I Sing the Mighty Power of God — ELLACOMBE

1 I sing the mighty power of God
That made the mountains rise;
That spread the flowing seas abroad
And built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
The sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God's command,
And all the stars obey.

2 I sing the goodness of the Lord
That filled the earth with food;
God formed the creatures with a word
And then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed,
Where'er I turn my eyes;
If I survey the ground I tread,
Or gaze upon the skies!

*Please stand if you are able.

3 There's not a plant or flower below
But makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,
By order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee
Is ever in Thy care,
And everywhere that we can be,
Thou, God, art present there.

CALL TO CONFESSON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We remember the elements, the earth beneath our feet, that grows our food; the wind that refreshes us in summer heat, and that tears trees from the ground in storms; the fire that warms us, flickers in candlelight, and destroys forests; the water of the womb, the water over which the spirit moved at the beginning of creation, the waters of our baptism. We are grateful for the joy we experience in these elements, in our embodiment, in the creation that you called good, as you brought life into being. We acknowledge that we have often taken your good creation for granted, and worse. We have failed to understand that your handiwork can reveal you to us, and so we have failed to love creation, to study creation, to honor creation. Help us to see with open eyes, to cherish your creation, to love you and all that you love.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Genesis 1:1-10; Luke 5:1-11 Donald Masters

Leader: The word of the Lord;
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Rev. Dr. Susan Gilbert Zencka

"Into the Deep"

WE RESPOND

*SERMON HYMN #494

Out of Deep, Unordered Water RUSTINGTON

1 Out of deep, unordered water
God created light and land,
World of bird and beast and,later,
In God's image, woman, man.
There is water in the river
Bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver:
There is water in the font.

2 Water on the human forehead,
Birthmark of the love of God
Is the sign of death and rising;
Through the seas there runs a road.
There is water in the river
Bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver:
There is water in the font.

3 Standing round the font reminds us
Of the Hebrews' climb ashore.
Life is hallowed by the knowledge:
God has been this way before.
There is water in the river
Bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver:
There is water in the font.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the *Iona Community Worship Book*)

Leader: Do you believe in God?

People: We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn; in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands, conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire.

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst to share our humanity.

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: We affirm a faith that takes us beyond the safe place: into action, into vulnerability and into the streets. We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line; to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation; to stand with those on the edge; to choose life and be used by the Spirit for God's new community of hope. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL FOR OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory "Love Is Here" Jason Ingram

Contemporary Ensemble

Verse 1
Come to the water you who thirst
And you'll thirst no more
Come to the Father you who work
And you'll work no more
And all you who labor in vain
And to the broken and shamed

Chorus 1
Love is here love is now
Love is pouring from His hands from His brow
Love is near it satisfies
Streams of mercy flowing from His side (yeah)
('Cause love is here)

Verse 2
Come to the Treasure you who search
And you'll search no more
Come to the Lover you who want
And you'll want no more
And all you who labor in vain
And to the broken and shamed yeah

Bridge
And to the bruised and fallen
Captives bound and broken-hearted
He is the Lord He is the Lord yeah
By His stripes He's paid our ransom
From His wounds we drink salvation
He is the Lord He is the Lord

Chorus 2
Love is here love is now
Love is pouring from His hands from His brow
Love is near it satisfies
Streams of mercy flowing from His side
Streams of mercy flowing from His side
'Cause love is here
Love is here yeah

*Doxology #592

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*Prayer of Dedication

WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give thanks and praise.
Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise…

Congregational Response

All Who Hunger Gather Gladly HOLY MANNA

1 All who hunger, gather gladly;
holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering.
Here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

…As our Savior Christ has taught us, so we pray…

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Congregational Response

2 All who hunger, never strangers;
seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming.
Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

Words of Institution

Congregational Response

3 All who hunger, sing together;
Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing.
Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Communion Music "All Who Are Thirsty" Brenton Brown

Contemporary Ensemble

Verse
All who are thirsty
All who are weak
Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life
Let the pain and the sorrow
Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy
As deep cries out to deep
(We sing)

Chorus 1
Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come
(REPEAT)

Chorus 2
Holy Spirit come
Holy Spirit come
(REPEAT)

Interlude
As deep cries out to deep
As deep cries out to deep
As deep cries out to deep we sing

Post-Communion Prayer

*SENDING HYMN #272

God of the Sparrow ROEDER

1 God of the sparrow
God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise

2 God of the earthquake
God of the storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe
How does the creature cry Save

3 God of the rainbow
God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks

4 God of the hungry
God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life

5 God of the neighbor
God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace

6 God of the ages
God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE March from "Battle of Britain Suite" William Warton