

Order of Service

August 30, 2020

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

*(see end of this document for hymns)*

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness**

We have not always lived in ways that reflect God's love for all.

There are times when prejudice and ignorance have caused us to judge others  
as less important, less capable, less whole than ourselves.

**Gracious God release us and grant us mercy.**

We have not always lived as people assured of our place in God's heart.

There are times when despair has been our refuge and we have turned from  
God's promises.

**Gracious God release us and grant us hope.**

We have not always lived as disciples of Jesus.

There are times when the paths to wealth and power have been more attractive  
than the longer roads of justice, peace and tolerance.

**Gracious God release us and grant us courage.**

We have not always lived as people of the Resurrection.  
There are times when we have only seen the world as a place of threat and  
brokenness, forgetting God's creative genius.

**Gracious God release us and grant us wisdom.**

In quietness we remember those thoughts, actions and words that have marred

your image in us, hurt others and damaged the world.

*Silence for reflection*

God has heard the confession of our hearts and minds.

In Christ we are set free.

**Thanks be to God. Amen**

**Gathering Hymn 396 – Spirit of Gentleness**

**Greeting**

Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread, because it is the Lord your God who goes with you; God will not fail you or forsake you. (Deut. 31:6) **Amen**

**Prayer of the Day**

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

**Word**

Exodus 3: 1-15 Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

Romans 12: 9-21 Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

Matthew 16: 21-28 The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day 798 – Will You Come and Follow Me**

**Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, etc. (Lisa please print out.)**

**Prayers of Intercession**

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of faithfulness, you bid your people to follow Jesus. Set the mind of your church on divine things. Grant us trust in you, that we lose our lives for the sake of Christ and thereby discover joy in life through him. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of wonder, the earth is yours and all that is in it. Heal your creation and give us eyes to see the world as you do. As the seasons change, pattern the rhythm of our lives in harmony with all creation. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all nations, you call us to live peaceably with all. Give us ears to hear one another, even those we name as enemies. Fill all leaders with mercy and understanding, that they advocate and genuinely care for those who are poor and most vulnerable in their communities. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of salvation, you promise to deliver us. Give those who suffer a strong sense of your presence and love. Accompany those who are uncertain, raise the spirits of those who are despairing, and heal the sick. We remember especially Evelyn, Gwen and Ed, Dorothy, the grieving family of Gareth, and others who we remember aloud or in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of community, you call us to rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer. Make our congregation a workshop of your love. When we quarrel, bring reconciliation. Help us overcome evil with good. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all grace, you give us everlasting life. In love we recall your holy ones who now live in your undying light. In our remembering, give us a foretaste of the feast to come. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Sharing the Peace of Christ** The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

**Musical Offering**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer:**

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**(Lisa, please print)**

### **Sending Hymn 546 – To Be Your Presence**

#### **Blessing**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

The God of all grace bless you now and forever. **Amen**

#### **Dismissal**

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Postlude**

## Hymns for Sunday August 30, 2020

### #396 Spirit of Gentleness

*Refrain*

*Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness*

*calling and free; Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,*

*stir from me placidness, wind, wind on the sea.*

1. You moved on the waters, you called to the deep  
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;  
and over the eons you called to each thing:  
“Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings”.

*Refrain*

2. You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand,  
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;  
and when they were blinded with idols and lies,  
then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.

*Refrain*

3. You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,  
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;  
and down in the city you called once again,  
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.

*Refrain*

4. You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.  
From bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;  
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new decisions, your people arise.

*Refrain*

## #798 Will You Come and Follow Me

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?
3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
4. Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

## #546 To Be Your Presence

1. To be your presence is our mission here,  
to show compassion's face and list'ning ear,  
to be your heart of mercy ever near,  
alleluia!
2. To be your presence is our mission bold,  
to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,  
to be your hands of justice, right uphold,  
alleluia!
3. To be your presence is our mission blest,  
to speak for all the broken and oppressed,  
to be your voice of hope, your love expressed,  
alleluia!
4. We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice,  
to serve your people is our call and choice,  
and in this mission we, the church, rejoice,  
alleluia!