

Pentecost 11A
Online & Outdoor Worship Bulletin
August 16, 2020

WELCOME

PRELUDE: *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

by Samuel Schmidt

CALL TO WORSHIP

We have gathered from our different places
to worship here.

How good it is to worship together in unity!

We come from our different occupations,
our diverse activities.

How good it is to worship together in unity!

We come as unique individuals,
bound together in the love of Christ.

How good it is to worship together in unity!

OPENING PRAYER

Merciful God, we boldly pray to you, confident that you will not reject us.
In spite of our human failings, your love continues to draw us together.
Be with us today, as we rejoice in the power of your love. Sing with us today,
as we proclaim the good news of your grace. Dance with us today, as we
celebrate the unity we share in Christ. How good it is to be together!
Hallelujah!

Amen!

HYMN(298) *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

by: F. W. Faber & J. Röntgen

There's a wideness in God's mercy,

like the wideness of the sea.

There's a kindness in God's justice,

which is more than liberty.

***There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.***

***There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.***

***For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind.***

***And the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.***

If our love were but more faithful,

***we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving
for the goodness of our Lord.***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Love, we have come here today for a family reunion! We know that we are sisters and brothers in Christ. Each of us is your precious child. And yet there is division in this family. There is sibling rivalry, old resentments, new irritations. We are quick to anger, slow to forgive. We would rather choose our relatives, than acknowledge the all-inclusive nature of your family. Open our hearts to your love, and show us the way of reconciliation. Teach us to see each brother and sister with your eyes. Help us claim our heritage as your own children, and live together in unity as your family.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Do not be distressed or angry with yourselves, for the God who reconciled Joseph and his brothers, can surely reconcile us. God's mercy extends to everyone.

We will rejoice and live in unity! Amen!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE READING Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15:21-28

SERMON *The Chutzpah of the Woman!*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God above us, Creator of all things, sustainer of all life.

***We believe in Christ beside us,
Companion and friend, redeemer of all the broken pieces of our universe.***

***We believe in Spirit deep within us,
Advocate and guide, who lives with us eternally.***

***We believe in God's resurrection created world,
Where all things are fixed, and all creation fits together in vibrant harmonies.***

***We believe in God above, beside, within,
God yesterday, today and forever, the three in one, the one in three,
We believe in God***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.*

DEDICATION OF OFFERING

Offertory: *Narcissus*
Prayer of Dedication

by: Ethelbert Nevis

HYMN (466) *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

*Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
My dear Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and king,
The triumphs of God's grace!*

by: C. Wesley & C. G. Gläser

*Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease—
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life, and health, and peace.*

*Christ breaks the power of reigning sin,
And sets the prisoner free;
Christ's blood can make the sinful clean,
Christ's blood availed for me*

*My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad,
The honors of Thy name.*

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word* by: Michael Praetorius

Today's written prayers are by Laura Jaquith Bartlett for the *ministrymatters.com* website. The Affirmation of Faith is from the Lenten series *Journey into Wholeness* written by Christine Sine. Published in 2009 by Mustard Seed Associates.

Tatiana Akhounzianova is the church organist and our pianist for these services.