

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**July 19, 2020**  
**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

- Prelude
- Welcome
- \* God's Greeting
- \* We Greet One Another
  - Christ be with you.**
  - And also with you!**
- \* Call to Worship (based on Matthew 5:14-16)
  - We are called to bring hope: that God gives us new and abundant life.*
  - We are the light of the world.**
  - So let your light shine before others*
  - That they may see our good deeds and praise our Father in heaven.**
- \* Opening Prayer

**WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD**

(Inspired by Ephesians 4:17-28)

*The wisdom of the world clouds our sight with deceitful promises for a happy life. The world tells us to stand up for our own interest. The world tells us it's "us" vs. "them." We feel entitled to wealth, peace, health and prosperity. We forget that these are good gifts from God, our creator. We become angry when things don't go our way.*

**We confess, Lord, that in anger, we have sinned against each other, and You. We have spoken falsely, for our own gain. We have spoken falsely, because understanding was too hard. We have taken from those who had little to give.**

*Jesus teaches us to put off the wisdom of the world, which is corrupted by desires that lie. He tells us to always be made new in our mind's attitude.*

**Every day, we will put on our new self.**

*You are created to be like God: righteous and holy.*

**We will live as people set apart for His good work.**

*God commands us to love our neighbor as ourselves.*

**We will consider our neighbors' needs equal to our own.**

*God gives this wisdom to us out of love and generosity.*

**We will love others with generosity, forgiving over and over. We will not harbor offense in our hearts.**

*I heard of the solid trust you have in the Master Jesus and your outpouring of love to all the followers of Jesus. I couldn't stop thanking God for you—every time I prayed, I'd think of you and give thanks. But I do more than thank. I ask—ask the God of our Master, Jesus Christ, the God of glory—to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing Him personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is He is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life He has for his followers, oh, the utter extravagance of His work in us who trust him—endless energy, boundless strength!*

Song of Response: "Holy Spirit Living Breath of God"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #746*

Holy Spirit, living Breath of God, breathe new life into my willing soul. Bring the presence of the risen Lord to renew my heart and make me whole. Cause your Word to come alive in me; give me faith for what I cannot see; give me passion for your purity; Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within, may your joy be seen in all I do. Love enough to cover every sin, in each thought and deed and attitude. Kindness to the greatest and the least, gentleness that sows the path of peace. Turn my striving into works of grace; Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth, giving life to all that God has made, show your power once again on earth, cause your church to hunger for your ways. Let the fragrance of our prayers arise; lead us on the road of sacrifice, that in unity the face of Christ may be clear for all the world to see.

Congregational Prayer

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

Scripture Reading:

Hebrews 12:14-15: <sup>14</sup> Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. <sup>15</sup> See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

Matthew 5:38-48: <sup>38</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' <sup>39</sup> But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. <sup>40</sup> And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. <sup>41</sup> If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. <sup>42</sup> Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. <sup>43</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup> But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. <sup>46</sup> If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? <sup>48</sup> Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Message: "Breaking the Grip of Offense"

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

Prayer of Application

\* Song of Response: "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #737*

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Thou art the potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me after thy will, while I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Search me and try me, Savior today! Open mine eyes, my sin show me now, as in thy presence humbly I bow.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Wounded and weary, help me I pray! Power, all power, surely is thine! Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Hold o'er my being absolute sway. Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see Christ only, always, living in me!

## **WE DEPART TO SERVE**

\* Blessing

\* Closing Song: "This Little Light of Mine"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #930*

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine; This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine; Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine;  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine; Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me; I'm gonna let it shine; Jesus gave it to me; I'm gonna let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me; I'm gonna let it shine; Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

\* Postlude

\* Please stand if you are able

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Music: Andrew Friend and Naomi Friend