

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**August 30, 2020**  
**Thirteenth 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 (From Psalm 46)

*God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.*

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging....**

*Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.*

**He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.**

*He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."*

**The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

\* Opening Song: "In Christ Alone"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #770*

In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;

This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!

My comforter, my all in all— Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe!

This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save.

Till on the cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;

For ev'ry sin on Him was laid— Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;

Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!

And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;

For I am His and He is mine— Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death— This is the pow'r of Christ in me;

From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.

No pow'r of hell, no human plan, Can ever pluck me from His hand;

Till He returns or calls me home— Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

\* Opening Prayer

**WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD**

God's Will for Our Lives (From Psalm 146:3-10)

*Don't put your confidence in powerful people; there is no help for you there. When they breathe their last, they return to the earth, and all their plans die with them.*

**But joyful are those who have the God of Israel as their helper, whose hope is in the Lord their God.**

*He made heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them. He keeps every promise forever.*

**He gives justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry. The Lord frees the prisoners.**

*The Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are weighed down. The Lord loves the godly.*

**The Lord protects the foreigners among us. He cares for the orphans and widows,**

**but he frustrates the plans of the wicked.**

*The Lord will reign forever. He will be your God, O Jerusalem, throughout the generations.*

Unison Prayer of Confession (From "Our World Belongs to God" article 55)

**Our Father, we thank you that hope for a new creation is not tied to what humans can do,**

**for we believe that one day every challenge to God's rule will be crushed. His Kingdom will fully come,**

**and the Lord will rule. Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

God's words of Assurance

*As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.... But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children— with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.*

Song of Response: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (Vs. 1-3)

*Lift Up Your Hearts #56*

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Congregational Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: Daniel 2:24-47: <sup>24</sup>Then Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to execute the wise men of Babylon, and said to him, "Do not execute the wise men of Babylon. Take me to the king, and I will interpret his dream for him." <sup>25</sup>Arioch took Daniel to the king at once and said, "I have found a man among the exiles from Judah who can tell the king what his dream means." <sup>26</sup>The king asked Daniel (also called Belteshazzar), "Are you able to tell me what I saw in my dream and interpret it?" <sup>27</sup>Daniel replied, "No wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about, <sup>28</sup>but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries. He has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in days to come. Your dream and the visions that passed through your mind as you were lying in bed are these: <sup>29</sup>"As Your Majesty was lying there, your mind turned to things to come, and the revealer of mysteries showed you what is going to happen. <sup>30</sup>As for me, this mystery has been revealed to me, not because I have greater wisdom than anyone else alive, but so that Your Majesty may know the interpretation and that you may understand what went through your mind. <sup>31</sup>"Your Majesty looked, and there before you stood a large statue—an enormous, dazzling statue, awesome in appearance. <sup>32</sup>The head of the statue was made of pure gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, <sup>33</sup>its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of baked clay. <sup>34</sup>While you were watching, a rock was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and smashed them. <sup>35</sup>Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were all broken to pieces and became like chaff on a threshing floor in the summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace. But the rock that struck the statue became a huge mountain and filled the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>"This was the dream, and now we will interpret it to the king. <sup>37</sup>Your Majesty, you are the king of kings. The God of heaven has given you dominion and power and might and glory; <sup>38</sup>in your hands he has placed all mankind and the beasts of the field and the birds in the sky. Wherever they live, he has made you ruler over them all. You are that head of gold. <sup>39</sup>"After you, another kingdom will arise, inferior to yours. Next, a third kingdom, one of bronze, will rule over the whole earth. <sup>40</sup>Finally, there will be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron—for iron breaks and smashes everything—and as iron breaks things to pieces, so it will crush and break all the others. <sup>41</sup>Just as you saw that the feet and toes were partly of baked clay and partly of iron, so this will be a divided kingdom; yet it will have some of the strength of iron in it, even as you saw iron mixed with clay. <sup>42</sup>As the toes were partly iron and partly clay, so this kingdom will be partly strong and partly brittle. <sup>43</sup>And just as you saw the iron mixed with baked clay, so the people will be a mixture and will not remain united, any more than iron mixes with clay. <sup>44</sup>"In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever. <sup>45</sup>This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands—a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces. "The great God has shown the king what will take place in the future. The dream is true and its interpretation is trustworthy."<sup>46</sup> Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell prostrate before Daniel and paid him honor and ordered that an offering and incense be presented to him. <sup>47</sup>The king said to Daniel, "Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery."

Message: "Rock On"

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

- \* Song of Response: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" (Vs. 1-3)

*Lift Up Your Hearts #772*

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

**Refrain:** On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;  
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. **(Refrain)**

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;  
when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. **(Refrain)**

## WE DEPART TO SERVE

- \* Blessing

- \* Closing Song: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" (Vs. 4)

*Lift Up Your Hearts #772*

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found,  
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

- \* Postlude

\*Please stand if you are able

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musician: Sue Bokhoven