

WORSHIP SERVICE
October 11, 2020
Eighteenth 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 (Prayer of St. Francis)
Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy;
O Master, Grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

- * Opening Song: "Beneath the Cross"

Lift Up Your Hearts #825

Beneath the cross of Jesus I find a place to stand,
And wonder at such mercy That calls me as I am;
For hands that should discard me Hold wounds which tell me, "Come."
Beneath the cross of Jesus My unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus His family is my own—
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams, Now one through grace alone.
How could I now dishonor The ones that You have loved?
Beneath the cross of Jesus See the children called by God.

Beneath the cross of Jesus— The path before the crown—
We follow in His footsteps Where promised hope is found.
How great the joy before us To be His perfect bride;
Beneath the cross of Jesus We will gladly live our lives.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

God's direction about caring for the oppressed (from Ps 82:2-4, Mt 5:7&9, OWBTG art. 53 & 54)

*"How long will you defend the unjust and show partiality to the wicked?
Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.
Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."*

**We urge governments and pledge ourselves to safeguard children and the elderly
from abuse and exploitation, to bring justice to the poor and oppressed,
and to promote the freedom to speak, work, worship, and associate.**

*"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."*

**Followers of the Prince of Peace are called to be peacemakers,
promoting harmony and order and restoring what is broken.**

Song of Response: "Here I Am, Lord"

Lift Up Your Hearts #869

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them?
whom shall I send?

REFRAIN: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them.

Whom shall I send? **(REFRAIN)**

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them.

Whom shall I send? **(REFRAIN)**

Congregational Prayer – Tom Niehof

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 1:17 "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

Deuteronomy 24:7 "If someone is caught kidnapping a fellow Israelite and treating or selling them as a slave, the kidnapper must die. You must purge the evil from among you."

1 Timothy 1:9-10 "We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for **slave traders** and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine that conforms to the gospel"

Message: "How Many Slaves Today?"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S Word

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

Psalter Hymnal #545

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring Your love;
Where there's injury, your pardon, Lord; and where there's doubt true faith in You.

REFRAIN: O Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;
Where there's darkness, let me bring Your light; and where there's sadness, ever joy. **(REFRAIN)**

Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
in giving to all people, we receive; and in dying that we're born to eternal life. **(REFRAIN)**

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Song of Response: "Take My Life and Let It Be" (Stanzas 1 & 6)

Lift Up Your Hearts #863

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee. Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise, let them flow in endless praise.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store. Take myself, and I will be ever,
only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

* Postlude

* Please stand if you are able.

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Keyboard: Char Verkade