

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**November 15th, 2020**  
**Twenty-Forth 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

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!*

**Praise him, for he is your health and salvation!**

*Come, all who hear; now to his temple draw near,*

**Join us in glad adoration.**

Opening Song: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

(Words provided for reflection)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!

Come, all who hear; brothers and sisters draw near, join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wonderously reigning,  
sheltering you under his wings, oh, so gently sustaining.

Have you not seen all that is needful has been sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;  
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.

Ponder anew what the Almighty can do as with his love he befriends you.

Praise to the Lord! O, let all that is in me adore him!

All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!

Let the amen sound from his people again. Gladly forever adore him!

\* Opening Prayer

**WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD**

God's Instruction to His People (Philippians 4:4-9)

*"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you."*

Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of mercy, in our impatience for answers, we sometimes turn to idols of our own making and forget our covenant with you. Passionate for what is right, we wrong those with whom we differ. Pleased at the invitation to your banquet, we fail to arrive with humility and thanksgiving. Forgive us when our faith is weak and our zeal too strong.**

**In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

God's Words of Assurance (Psalm 103:8-12)

*"The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us."*

Congregational Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:25-34<sup>25</sup> "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?<sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?<sup>27</sup> Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

<sup>28</sup> "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin.<sup>29</sup> Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.<sup>30</sup> If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?<sup>31</sup> So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'<sup>32</sup> For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.<sup>33</sup> But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.<sup>34</sup> Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Message: "Of Birds and Flowers: Freed to Seek the Kingdom"

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

Prayer of Application

\* Song of Response: "Look and Learn"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #120*

Look and learn from the birds of the air, flying high above worry and fear;  
neither sowing nor harvesting seed, yet they're given whatever they need.

If the God of earth and heaven cares for birds as much as this,  
won't he care much more for you, when you put your trust in him?

Look and learn from the flowers of the field, bringing beauty and color to life;  
neither sewing nor tailoring cloth, yet they're dressed in the finest attire.

If the God of earth and heaven cares for flowers as much as this,  
won't he care much more for you, when you put your trust in him?

What God wants should be our will; where God calls should be our goal.

When we seek the kingdom first, all we've lost is ours again.

Let's be done with anxious thoughts, set aside tomorrow's cares,  
live each day that God provides, putting all our trust in him.

## **WE DEPART TO SERVE**

\* Blessing

\* Closing Song: "My Friends, May You Grow in Grace"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #938*

My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.

My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

\* Postlude

\* Please stand if you are able

Message: Tyler Helfers

Musicians: Sue Bokhoven and Tara Tilstra