

WORSHIP SERVICE
October 17, 2021
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

- * God's Greeting
- * We Greet One Another
- * Call to Worship: (Based on 1 Peter 2:9-10)

But you, you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession.

May we declare the praises of him who called us out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God.

Once we had not received mercy, but now we have received his mercy.

- * Opening Song: "Gather Us In" *Lift Up Your Hearts #529*

Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of the day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery, we are the old who yearn for your face; we have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away here in this place the new light is shining now is the kingdom, and now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

- * Opening Prayer

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

God's Will for His People: Readers' Theatre: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

One: I don't want you to forget, dear brothers and sisters,
about our ancestors in the wilderness long ago.

All of them were guided by a cloud that moved ahead of them,
and all of them walked through the sea on dry ground.

In the cloud and in the sea,
all of them were baptized as followers of Moses.

Two: All of them ate the same spiritual food,
and all of them drank the same spiritual water.

For they drank from the spiritual rock that traveled with them,
and that rock was Christ.

One: Yet God was not pleased with most of them,
and their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

Two: These things happened as a warning to us,
so that we would not crave evil things as they did,
or worship idols as some of them did.

As the Scriptures say,

One: The people celebrated with feasting and drinking,
and they indulged in pagan revelry.

Two: And we must not engage in sexual immorality as some of them did,
causing 23,000 of them to die in one day.

One: Nor should we put Christ to the test,
as some of them did and then died from snakebites.

Two: And don't grumble as some of them did,
and then were destroyed by the angel of death.

One: These things happened to them as examples for us.
They were written down to warn us who live at the end of the age.

Two: If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall.
The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience.

Assurance of Pardon: 1 Corinthians 10:13, 31

One: God is faithful.
He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand.
When you are tempted,
he will show you a way out so that you can endure.
In whatever you do,
Do it for the Glory of God.

Song of Response: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #730

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.
In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart Lord Jesus.
I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness shine on my path. And show me the way to the Father.
In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart Lord Jesus.
I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to follow Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race. We shall know the joy of Jesus.
In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart Lord Jesus.

Ordination of Tyler Helfers

Song of Commissioning: "Will You Come and Follow Me" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #742

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-12

⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.”

⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸ and,

“A stone that causes people to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

Message: “Jesus People: Living Stone”

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

Song of Response: "May the Mind of Christ, My Savior" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #334

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day,
by His love and power controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph only through His pow'r.

May the peace of God, my Father, rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea.
Him exalting, self abasing: this is victory.

May we run the race before us, strong and brave to face the foe,
looking only unto Jesus as we onward go.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "Go to the World"

Lift Up Your Hearts #925

Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
baptizing as the sign of our rebirth Alleluia!

Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space. Alleluia!

Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way. Alleluia!

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
for I am with you till the age shall end,
when all the hosts of glory cry "Amen." Alleluia!

* Postlude

* Please Stand if You Are Able

Children's Message: Andrew Friend

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Andrew Friend and Naomi Friend