

SUNDAY SERVICE FOR AUGUST 22, 2021

PRELUDE "Praise God" -Bach, Burkhardt & Behnke

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

• CALL TO WORSHIP (*Based on words from Psalm 34*)

One: The Eyes of God are upon us.

All: And God's ears are open to our cry

One: The righteous cry, and God hears them.

All: And delivers them from all troubles.

One: The Divine is near to us all and redeems our lives.

All: Let us put our trust in God and learn to live in faith.

• OPENING HYMN #635 "Faith of Our Fathers"

OPENING PRAYER (*In unison*)

God of all people, we gather this morning that we might grow in faith and understanding. Forgive us when we lose our faith and fail to open ourselves to your guidance and your redeeming love. Help us to learn from our mistakes, celebrate our victories, and step forward into the future trusting that you will strengthen us for the journey. In life and in mission, we call upon you to lead us into the future. Empower us through the Holy Spirit and help us to Love in the Way of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

• WORDS OF ASSURANCE

• THE GLORIA PATRI #35 (*Sung by all*)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,

And to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning,

Is now, and ever shall be

World without end. Amen. Amen.

GREETING TIME (*As we greet each other please be respectful of each other's comfort level.*)

MUSICAL RESPONSE "Give Thanks" -Hayes

SCRIPTURE

First Reading: **Joshua 24:1-2a,14-18** (*page 215*)

Second Reading: **Ephesians 6:10-20** (*page 195*)

SERMON "How Will They Know that We Are Christians??"

OUR OFFERING (*As Jan's musical offering fills the sanctuary, may we quietly reflect on what we will offer in support of the mission of the church as we seek to bring God's Love more fully into the world.*)

MUSICAL REFLECTION “Give Me Jesus” (*African American Spiritual*)

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER (*In unison*)

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

• CLOSING HYMN #494 “They’ll Know We Are Christians”

• BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Tis The Gift to Be Simple” (*Traditional Quaker Hymn*)

Enter to Worship – Depart to Serve

Our time of worship concludes at the end of the Postlude. If you would like to remain in the sanctuary to listen to this music written and played to glorify God, please do so quietly.

Otherwise, you may join others in the narthex for refreshments and fellowship.

Joshua 24:1-2a,14-18

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. “Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.

Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.” Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

Ephesians 6:10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.