

SUNDAY SERVICE FOR SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

PRELUDE “Christians, We Have Met to Worship” -arr. W. Held

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

• CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively – we encourage masking*)

(From Psalm 119, adapted from *The Message*)

One: God calls us to worship in this sacred space.

All: “God, teach me lessons for living so I can stay the course.

One: “Give me insight so I can do what you ask of me—

All: “My whole life one long, obedient response.” Let us worship the Lord!

• OPENING HYMN #6 “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above” (*Verses 1 & 4*)

(*While singing we encourage masking*)

• OPENING PRAYER

Holy One, your people gather to lift the wonders of their hearts to your hearing. Reawaken us to the treasure of acting with, and on behalf of, all your children. We have become unfortunately good with self-concern and individual freedom. Prod us toward the path of Jesus where love for neighbor is hallmark and your vision is that we may all be one. Help us find the joy in living amidst such community. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, your Light among us. Amen.

• WORDS OF ASSURANCE

• THE GLORIA PATRI #35 (*Sung by all – we encourage masking*)

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.

• PASSING OF THE PEACE (*Please be respectful of each other’s comfort level.*)

MUSICAL RESPONSE “Into My Heart”

SCRIPTURE

Reading: **Esther 9:20-22** (*page 450*)

MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

(*Following the message, children are invited to join the Sunday School teachers, who will be masked, in the back of church for outdoor Sunday School.*)

SERMON Where is God? *Rev. Tom Payden*

CALL TO OFFER OUR TIME AND TALENTS

(Offering plates can be found at the center doors outside the sanctuary. Giving is also possible online through GIVE+ on our website and through the sharing of your gifts in service.)

MUSICAL REFLECTION “His Eye Is on the Sparrow” -arr. V. Labenske

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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 #638 “In the Bulb There Is a Flower”*(While singing we encourage masking.)*

• COMMISIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Guide me, O My Great Redeemer” -arr. D. Wagner

Esther 9:20-22

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.