

"The world floods in on all of us. The world can be kind, and it can be cruel. It can be beautiful and it can be appalling. It can give us good reason to hope and good reason to give up all hope. It can strengthen our faith in a loving God, and it can decimate our faith."

-Frederick Beuchner

# TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST NOVEMBER 21, 2021

Some tips for our time together:

- 1. Please mute your Zoom feed. There will be moments for you to share as you feel led at which point you can unmute.
- 2. As is typical, the singing and bold print are for communal response. Caroline and Dave will be unmuted and be the "out-loud" voice of the people. We invite you to sing and say the words aloud along with them where you are while muted.
- 3. Follow along in the bulletin on a separate device (e.g. phone)
- 4. We aren't sure, but it might make sense to switch back and forth between the 'gallery' and 'active speaker' modes. Perhaps utilizing active speaker mode for the reading of scripture, homily/sharing, and prayers of the people, while using gallery for the rest.
- 5. Create sacred space. Find symbols of the faith—cross, candles, Bible, bowl of water, icons—to put on a table near you during this time.
- 6. Asterisks in the bulletin indicate where the congregation is invited to stand.

## **GATHERING**

CALL TO WORSHIP\* (adapted from Voices Together)

Some of us are exhausted.

We come to rest.

Some of us are curious about Jesus.

We come to learn.

Some of us are hungry.

We come to be fed.

Some of us are disoriented.

We come to pray.

Some of us are broken.

We come to be healed.

We gather around you today, O Christ, for you know our weakness and have felt our pain:

renew us, teach us, feed us, hear us, heal us.

ALL: Grant us your peace. Amen.

SONG - Come, Let Us Worship God

Come, let us worship God. (echo) Come, let us worship God. (echo) Welcome everyone (echo) to the love of God, (echo) to the love of God.

vs. 2 - Rest for the weary...

vs. 3 - Food for the hungry...

vs. 4 - Hope for the children...

### SONG - All the Poor and Powerless

All the poor and powerless, and all the lost and lonely, all the thieves will come confess, and know that you are holy, will know that you are holy.

All the hearts who are content, and all who feel unworthy, all who hurt with nothing left will know that you are holy.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,

Refrain:

And all will sing out, hallelujah! We will cry out, hallelujah! And all will sing out, hallelujah! We will cry out, hallelujah!

Holy, you are holy Lord Almighty. All creation sings your praises. You are God. too real to hide,
and too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.
Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more
into your likeness and image,
through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

#### PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

## SONG - All of Your Ways Are Peace

All of your ways are peace.
All of your ways are peace.
Though we are pressed on every side, we trust that you are peace.

All of your words are true, all of your words are true. Though we have heard so many lies, we trust your words are true. All of your ways are just.
All of your ways are just.
Though we may say it through our tears,
we trust that you are just.

## WORD

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON - Isaiah 53:1-5

Who has believed what we have heard?

And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.
He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases;

yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

GOSPEL LESSON\* - John 16:25-33

'I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures, but will tell you plainly of the Father. On that day you will ask in my name. I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and am going to the Father.'

His disciples said, 'Yes, now you are speaking plainly, not in any figure of speech! Now we know that you know all things, and do not need to have anyone question you; by this we believe that you came from God.' Jesus answered them, 'Do you now believe? The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each one to his home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me. I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!'

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SERMON - Undeniably Wounded and Totally Alive - Pastor Judy Peterson

## **RESPONSE**

SONG - My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand: all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace; in ev'ry high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. His oath, his covenant, his blood, support me in the whelming flood; when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found: dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER

### **OFFERING**

(To give online, visit rescov.org/give)

### DOXOLOGY\*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**HOLY COMMUNION** 

## **SENDING**

SONG - Kwake Yesu Nasimama/Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand

### (Refrain)

Kwake Yesu nasimama, ndiye mwamba ni salama, ndiye mwamba ni salama, ndiye mwamba ni salama.

(translation:

Here on Jesus Christ I will stand, he's the solid rock of my life, he's the solid rock of my life, he's the solid rock of my life.)

There's no other place I can hide till the storm that rages subsides. My voice cries to God from the flood, and I'm saved because of his blood.

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION\*** 

It is not the work of my hands that has washed away all my sins. I'm redeemed, and all of my days, Jesus Christ will be my heart's praise.

When my days on this earth are done, and I stand at God's holy throne, my heart will not have any fear; in Christ's righteousness I am here.