

Order of Worship – Sunday, September 6, 2020

ORGAN PRELUDE

Catalina Daggett

My Faith Looks Up to Thee – Lowell Mason
Be Thou My Vision – Traditional Irish Tune

OPENING PRAYER

Landes Dung

Gracious God, we come this day seeking courage and hope for the future. Our world is in such peril. Heal these wounds and quiet the words of hate. Help us to be those who bring peace in our families and communities. Banish the darkness of doubt and fear; anoint us with your light and love that we may spread the good news of your mercy to everyone. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

OPENING SONG

“Amazing Grace/ My Chains Are Gone”

Landes Dung

Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind but now I see

Verse 2

Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood his mercy rains
Unending love, amazing grace

Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures [Chorus]

Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Allison

Good and gracious God, you told us from the very beginning that we would earn our bread by the sweat of our brow. We are interdependent in our laboring, Lord. We depend on the migrant workers who pick our lettuce and our strawberries, the nurses’ aides who empty bed pans, the teachers who form our children’s minds.

We thank you, Lord, for the gifts and talents you have given us that allow us to earn a living and contribute something positive to our world. We pray, dear Lord, for the millions who are without work in this pandemic. Sustain them — us — in your love.

Help us to remember that we have worth as human beings, job or no job. Our society preaches to us that our worth comes from success. But our worth comes because you made us. You love us and you call us to love and support each other. We pray for those who do the dirty work in our lives, those who break their backs for us.

Help us to bind together, Lord, because we depend on one another —garbage collectors, police, grocery store workers, truck drivers, EMTs, accountants, those who clean our houses, postal workers, waiters, scientists, and healthcare providers.

Help us to realize how dependent we are on one another, Lord. We are one. We are family. We need each other. Let us give thanks for each other this Labor Day weekend. Help us to celebrate and give thanks for each other and appreciate the value, the dignity, the contribution that each one makes to keep our country, our cities, our lives going.

We pray for those who are sick, in the hospital, recovering, or facing procedures:

We pray for those who mourn, asking for the Spirit to comfort them and remind them of the hope we have in you:

We pray for those who are traveling. See them safely home:

We celebrate with those who celebrate:

We pray for those other concerns which we lifted up to you:

And we pray for ourselves, Lord, that we may be more faithful disciples. Now, we lift up to you our prayers, and name in the silence of our hearts what we did not speak out loud.

We pray in the powerful name of our Savior. Amen.

SERMON

“Risky Grace”
Philemon

Pastor Allison

COMMUNION OFFERING

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor Allison

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Landes Dung

Forgiving and loving God, our hearts are filled today with pain and concern for the future. Words of anger assail our airways — we cannot escape from the threats being thrown about. In our fear, we cry “Where are you, O Lord?” We wander around in the darkness of the spirit, seeking light and hope. Forgive us when we forget that you are always with us, through times of peace and times of violence.

Heal our souls. Help us to reach out to others with the assurance of your love and presence, for we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor Allison

God hears our prayers and our cries. God leads us out of the darkness of the past into the bright promise of today. We are called to stand strong and confident in God's love. Rejoice, dear friends, for that love which began before creation flows in and through you this day! Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

“One Bread, One Body”

Landes Dung

Chorus

One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many, throughout the earth
We are one body in this one Lord.

Verse 1

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
Woman or man no more [Chorus]

Verse 2

Many the gifts, many the works,
One in the Lord of all [Chorus]

Verse 3

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
Gathered to one for all [Chorus]

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor Allison

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.
When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father (God), now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

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 trespasses as we forgive those who have trespassed against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD, BLESSING THE CUP

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for his holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in
the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Change My Heart, O God”

Landes Dung

Verse 1

Before I spoke a word you were singing over me
You have been so, so good to me
Before I took a breath, you breathed your life in me
You have been so, so kind to me

Chorus

(And) O the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God
O, it chases me down, fights ‘til I’m found, leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn’t earn it, don’t deserve it, still you give yourself away
O, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God

Verse 2

When I was your foe, still your love fought for me
You have been so, so good to me
When I felt no worth, you paid it all for me
You have been so, so kind to me

Bridge

There’s no shadow you won’t light up
Mountain you won’t climb up, coming after me
There’s no wall you won’t kick down
Lie you won’t tear down, coming after me

BENEDICTION

Pastor Allison: Where will we go and who will we be?

All: We go out to be God’s people in the world.

POSTLUDE

Agnes Dei – Georges Bizet

Catalina Daggett