

Order of Worship – Sunday, September 13, 2020

OPENING PRAYER

Landes Dung

Awesome and amazing God, you go to the depths of love and the heights of caring for us. You sing to us in the beauty of each dawn. You walk with us each day. You bless us each evening, and you hide us under the shadow of your wings each night. Awesome and amazing God, we sing praise to you and tell of your love to all creation. Amen.

OPENING SONG

“Our God”

Landes and Cassell Dung

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Pastor Allison

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Allison

As we enter into this time of prayer, O God, we offer our gratitude that you are always present to us. Instill in us a desire to so listen to others. Help us to listen with open hearts and open minds, that others might feel safe in our presence. Instill in us a spirit of serenity that others might feel accepted in your nonjudgmental grace. Free us from the tendency to label people and ideas and allow us instead to lean into mercy and kindness.

In the stillness of these moments, we acknowledge the times when we have been less than kind, merciful and open. Thank you for never banning us from your presence, loving God; help us to so love and accept others.

On this day, Lord, our state is on fire. We pray for the firefighters who put their lives on the line to protect lives and preserve homes and livelihoods. We thank you that those who had been trapped by the flames are safe and pray for healing for those who were hurt. We pray for communities dispersed by evacuation, for the return home when the all clear is given, for those who will return to ashes and loss.

We also pray, Lord, for all those affected by tropical storms, hurricanes, derechos, wind and flood. We pray especially for the people of Louisiana as they recover from Hurricane Laura and those who may be facing new storms forming in the oceans.

We thank you for the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, which is responding to all these disasters. We also pray for the disaster relief work of our Annual Conference and for its leader Sonja Edd-Bennett.

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...

And we pray for ourselves, Lord, that we may be more faithful disciples.

Now, we lift up to you these prayers...

Silent prayer

We pray in the name of our Savior who taught us to pray, saying...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SERMON

“Listen to Your Donkey”
Numbers 22:15-35

Pastor Allison

CLOSING SONG

“Grace Like Rain”

Landes and Cassell Dung

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, here are our gifts of time; here are our gifts of talents; here are our gifts of money; building stones for your kingdom, awaiting shaping and placing within your loving purpose. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

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

All: We go out into the world to be God's people.