

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

October 22, 2023 ~ 10:30 a.m.

The Gathering

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stewardship Testimony

PRELUDE All Creatures of Our God and King – Arr, Ralph Vaughan-Williams

INTROIT Give Us Light – Jean Racine

Gathering Around the Word

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bring praise to our Creator
who kissed life into our mortal bodies.

**We bring praise to our Creator
who trusts us to preserve God's most precious things.**

Bring praise to our Creator
who invites us into a sacred partnership
to tend to each other and all of creation.

**We bring praise to our Creator
seeing the beauty around us
and sensing our sacred responsibility.**

HYMN - All Creatures of Our God and King #347 (Vs. #1, #3, #4)

Verse 1. All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
"Alleluia! Alleluia!"
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise Him, O praise Him!
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Verse 2 Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of ev'ning, find a voice,
O praise Him, O praise Him!
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Verse 4 Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship Him in humbleness;
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One;
O praise Him, O praise Him!
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Creator God, we gather here billions of years from the beginning, still in awe of your continually unfolding creation. Stars and centipedes and still mornings such as this inspire our gratitude to you for this life, abundant and rich.

UNISON PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS

Make us aware of the sacred connections begun in creation but broken now. And having been formed in your likeness, equip us with the desire to serve, and the willingness to guard, and the hope to heal until creation's wholeness is restored.

Silence is kept.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Generosity is rooted in love. That's what this is all about—sharing the love of God we feel and making sure it flows through us into the places the world needs it most. From the beginning when God created us in God's likeness God has trusted us with God's most precious things—people and earth, messages of peace and hope—and God depends on us for their flourishing. That's what gratitude and generosity are all about—this wonderful dance between God's blessing and God's dependence on us to bless others and to bless the earth. Today we give thanks for these things and for each other who make this mission and ministry possible simply because we do not do it alone, but together in beloved community where forgiveness is freely given and received.

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER ["Sins"]

ANTHEM -- I Love you Lord – By Laurie Klien (Arr. Stan Pethel)

The Word

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 1:15-18

and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶ God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

Genesis 3:1-7

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” ² The woman said to the serpent, “We

may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’ ” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die, ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God,^[a] knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

SERMON

"Enough."

Responding to the Word

OFFERING

Invitation to Generosity

Let us join our hearts and minds in the spirit of prayer:

Creator God, for blessing us with many gifts, we thank you. For walking with us in our fear, we praise you. Take our gifts and with your love, help us to make our world whole. Amen.

Offertory Wir Armen Sunder (We Poor Sinners) - Ernst Pepping

Prayer of Dedication/Offering

Take our offerings and tithes, O God, bless them that they may be used to share your love and blessing in our community and the world. May these offerings provide for the least of these needs and the proclamation of your word to those seeking hope. Amen!

HYMN – A Mighty Fortress is Our God #118 (Vs. #1, #2)

Verse 1 A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
does seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Verse 2 Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing.
You ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same;
and he must win the battle.

Sending the Word

BENEDICTION

The God who spoke the world into being
Forming humans in God's likeness
Sends us out to be channels of love and hope and justice:
Go then to bring the gifts of such blessings to all the earth!

POSTLUDE – Ton-Y-Botel - Richard Purvis