

Order of Worship

June 23rd, 2019

“The grace of God means something like: Here is your life. You might never have been, but you are because the party wouldn't have been complete without you. Here is the world. Beautiful and terrible things will happen. Don't be afraid. I am with you. Nothing can ever separate us. It's for you I created the universe. I love you.”

Frederick Buechner

“As we might guess, far from gradually becoming extinct in adulthood, our fears increase throughout our lives. What was once a small family of worries quietly conducts an aggressive breeding program to become a teeming community of palpable fears and private anxieties. The code by which fear and anxiety live is primal: multiply. As we possess more things, care about more people, accumulate more bad experiences, and watch the evening news, it is as if we absorb fear. If they are not obvious in your own life, perhaps it's because you have been living in a war zone your entire life. At first you noticed every gunshot. After a while the mayhem blends in with the rustle of the trees, the TV, and the children playing in the other room. Fear gradually becomes the background noise of everyday life.”

Ed Welch, *Running Scared*

“Fear can sit in the car, but it sits in the back, and it can't pick the music.”

Elizabeth Gilbert

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

House of God Forever

Call to Worship

Be Thou My Vision

Let Me Find Thee

Call to Confession

Confession of Sin

God of steadfast love and faithfulness,
We humbly confess that we have been unfaithful
to our covenant relationship with you and with one another.
We have worshipped other gods: money, power, control, and convenience.
We have served our own self-interest
instead of serving you and your people.
We have not loved our neighbor as you have commanded,

nor have we rightly loved ourselves.
Forgive us, gracious God,
and restore to us the fullness and intimacy,
the joy and peace of our covenant relationship with you and one another.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

“You are a chosen race,
a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s treasured possession,
in order that you may proclaim the excellencies of him
who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.
Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people;
Once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy . . .
All of this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself.”

1 Peter 2: 9-10 and 2 Corinthians 5: 18

Be Still

*Children ages 3-5 are dismissed to their worship class.
K-2nd grade with remain in the service.*

Welcome and Prayers of the People

Delane Clark

Offering and Doxology

Christ is Mine Forevermore

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Life Together

David Speakman

ATTENDING TO GOD’S WORD

“The Language of the Heart: Praying our Trouble”

David Speakman

¹ O LORD, how many are my foes!

Many are rising against me;

² many are saying of my soul,

there is no salvation for him in God.

³ But you, O LORD, are a shield about me,
my glory, and the lifter of my head.

⁴ I cried aloud to the LORD,

and he answered me from his holy hill.

⁵ I lay down and slept;

I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.
6 I will not be afraid of many thousands of people
who have set themselves against me all around.

7 Arise, O LORD!
Save me, O my God!
For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;
you break the teeth of the wicked.

8 Salvation belongs to the LORD;
your blessing be on your people!

Psalm 3

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.
All: *Thanks be to God*

Children return to join their families

FEASTING AT THE LORD'S TABLE

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: *It is right to give Him thanks and praise.*

Leader: Therefore let us proclaim the mystery of the faith.

All: *Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.*

Lord's Supper Instructions

- The Lord's Supper is open to anyone who is trusting in Jesus' death and resurrection alone for his or her redemption.
- People come forward from the back rows first to receive the elements.
- White grape juice in cups and gluten free crackers are available at the left and right stations.
- At the middle station, you may receive from the common loaf and cup. We follow the practice of intinction where you dip the bread in the wine.
- If you need prayer, there is a group (including elders) available to pray for anyone in need of prayer in the kitchen. There is also a group of women in the room next to the Connections kiosk who can pray for women. The Lord's Supper is available in both prayer rooms.
- Young children who have made a profession of faith may partake in the Lord's Supper when they have met with and been approved by the Session.

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me,

and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Almighty God

ENGAGING GOD'S WORLD

Come and Welcome

Benediction

“The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord makes his face shine upon you and be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.”

Numbers 6: 24-26