A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
The Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 6, 2023

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING. . .

The Prelude


The Welcome and Announcements

This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Call To Worship

Today, we welcome the oceans, streams, and rivers to worship with us:
The deep sea currents, the tidal marshes, the mountain peaks on the ocean floor.

We join all ocean life in songs of praise:
Whales and dolphins dancing on the surface; fish and coral glowing below.

Oceans, seas, rivers, all the watery deeps:
May all that live in the waters of life swim and sing with praise!

The Prayer of Adoration

Creator God, we give thanks for your Spirit, which hovered over the primal waters in the
beginning. We give thanks, Mighty God, for your power, which divided the waters, making dry land
appear. We give thanks, O God of Wisdom, for filling the deeps with beautiful creatures and
wonders still to be discovered. We praise you for oceans and seas, rivers and streams, tidal marshes
and wetlands, where living things thrive. Continue to renew the face of the earth; receive praise
and adoration offered in the languages of all that have life! Amen.

The Hymn 15

All Creatures of our God and King (verses 1-3, 6)

All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia! O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.
Alleluia! Alleluia! O sister water, flowing clear, make music for your Lord to hear.
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shadows of the night.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Dear mother earth, who day by day unfolds such blessings on our way,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sister, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart.
Alleluia! Alleluia! All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*The Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you hovered over the formless void and separated waters from waters; water is your
gift to the world. Forgive us when we use it unwisely, when we pollute the waters through
carelessness and waste. Guide us in our stewardship of rivers, lakes, streams, and seas. Teach us to
live in harmony with one another and with all nature, that we may be reconciled to you, and to one
another, and reconciled with your whole wonder-filled creation...silent prayer...Amen

*Assurance of Pardon

Hear these words:
God the Creator promises to restore the old and create the new.
God the Christ forgives our carelessness and greed.
God the Spirit enlightens our way to wiser living.

Thanks be to God, who forgives and reconciles!

*The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: World without end. Amen

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. And also with you!

(Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ. For those worshiping at home, please share Christ’s peace with someone outside Your home this week.)

Minute for Creation Care:  James Luckett

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD . . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson: Job 38:1-18

Sacred Dance


Backpack Blessing

*The Hymn 484

Out of Deep, Unordered Water

Out of deep, unordered water God created light and land,
world of bird and beast and, later, in God’s image, woman, man.
There is water in the river bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver: there is water in the font.

Water on the human forehead, birthmark of the love of God,
is the sign of death and rising; through the seas there runs a road.
There is water in the river bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver: there is water in the font.

Standing round the font reminds us of the Hebrews’ climb ashore.
Life is hallowed by the knowledge: God has been this way before.
There is water in the river bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver: there is water in the font.

The Psalter Lesson: Psalm 104:1-27

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

Oceans: Peril and Playfulness

Kim Clayton

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD. . .

*Affirmation of Faith

(B)lessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with
every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the
foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for
adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the
praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

...With all wisdom and insight God has made known to us his good pleasure set forth in Christ,
as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on
earth.
In Christ we have obtained an inheritance...so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

The Prayers of the People

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Tithes and Offerings Presented

*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

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

GOING FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD’S NAME

*The Hymn 8

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave, who bade the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:

O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Savior, whose almighty word the winds and waves submissive heard, who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid its rage did sleep:

O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who did brood upon the chaos wild and rude, and bade its angry tumult cease, and gave, for fierce confusion, peace:

O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, all travelers guard in danger’s hour; from rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them where so e’er they go; thus evermore shall rise to thee glad praise from air and land and sea.

*The Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Allegro Op. 28, No. 8 Christian Cappelen, arr. Mark L. Williams

The flowers on the pulpit are given anonymously in honor of anniversaries, so we may remember.

Sacred Dance Ensemble:

Water Movers: Rosemary Blankenship, Alice Gearino, Mary Katherine Greenlaw, Patty Toler, Kathy Vining, Vicky Wilder

Water Sprinklers: Sherman Brown, Suzi Bevan, Karen Johnson, Diane Peterson, Marty Wilder

Today's Worship Leaders:

Preacher: Kimberly Clayton
Liturgist: Brittany Harvey
Organist: Amy Shirk

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