A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
The Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

July 2, 2023
*All who are able may stand.
Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING. . .
The Prelude

Largo
Daniel Purcell

The Welcome and Announcements

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

The Introit

Great is Thy Faithfulness

The Call To Worship

How long, O Lord, how long?

How long will you hide your face, O God?

Consider and answer me, O God!

But I trust in your steadfast love, and I will sing;
because the Lord has dealt bountifully with me.

The Prayer of Adoration

Almighty God, we give you thanks for the goodness of the land and the refreshment of the seas.
We praise you for the gift of freedom, used in ways that are just and true. We praise you for calling
us to journey always toward the homeland you have set before us—your better country, where all
are honored, and all are loved. Make of us a holy nation, your own people, called into your
marvelous light. Amen.

*The Hymn 331

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne arise.
Thy love divine hath led us in the past. In this free land by thee our lot is cast.
Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide and stay: thy word our law, thy paths our chosen way.
From war’s alarms, from deadly pestilence, be thy strong arm our ever-sure defense.
Thy true religion in our hearts increase. Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.
Refresh thy people on their toilsome way. Lead us from night to never ending day.
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

*The Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, your ways are not our ways; your thoughts are not our thoughts. Forgive us when
we behave as though our ways are holy and pure. We confess that they are not. Forgive us for
acting as though what we think is what you think. We confess that we are wrong. We make idols of
both our ideals and our judgments. Save us from our idolatry, we pray. Humble us so that we learn
your ways and inquire more deeply into your thoughts. Slow us down before we take a hasty step
or speak a hasty word. Make space in us for grace—grace given, and grace received...silent
prayer...Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

The Psalmist asks, “Who may abide in God’s tent? Who may dwell on God’s holy hill?

Of our own merit, none of us can be counted worthy. But by the grace of Christ, we receive mercy,
are loved, and included. Thanks be to God for such love!
*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.)

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD . . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The Psalter Lesson: Psalm 13

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 6:20-23

The Anthem

Stand by Me
Moses Hogan

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 10:40-42

A Moment with the Children

*The Hymn 803

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways, and leads me, for his mercy’s sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death your presence is my stay;
one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;
my cup with blessing overflows; your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
no more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home.

The Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 22:1-4

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

Go: Or Maybe Don’t Go
Kim Clayton

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD . . .

*Affirmation of Faith

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love, God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

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 337

*My Country, ’Tis of Thee*

My country, ’tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing:
land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims’ pride, from every mountainside let freedom ring.

My native country, thee, land of the noble free, thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills; my heart with rapture thrills like that above.

Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees sweet freedom’s song.
Let mortal tongues awake; let all that breathe partake; let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.

Our fathers’ God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing.
Long may our land be bright with freedom’s holy light; protect us by thy might, great God, our King.

*The Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Praise the Lord, Who Reigns Triumphant

David Paxton

Today’s Worship Leaders:

Preacher: Kim Clayton
Liturgists: Bobbie Kerns, Jen Rowe
Choirmasters: Mary Ann and Larry Casey
Organist: Amy Shirk

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