



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Online Order of Worship

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 9th, 2020

Greetings and Welcome

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship

Penny Kiel

Here, in this place,

God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:

here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.

Here, in this time, we can remember all the ways God has graced us:

here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us, always!

Here are gathered those daring enough to step out of comfort into the unknown:

here, in this faith space, we will find the courage to cry out, 'God, save us!'

in every situation.

Hymn #2236 (Sing the Faith)

“Gather Us In” GATHER US IN

Here in this place new light is streaming

Now is the darkness vanished away

See in this space our fears and our dreamings

Brought here to you in the light of this day

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken

Gather us in, the blind and the lame

Call to us now and we shall awaken

We shall arise at the sound of our name

We are the young, our lives are a mystery

We are the old who yearn for your face

We have been sung throughout all of history

Called to be light to the whole human race

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty

Gather us in, the proud and the strong

Give us a heart so meek and so lowly

Give us the courage to enter the song

Here we will take the wine and the water

Here we will take the bread of new birth

Here you shall call your sons and your daughters

Call us anew to be salt for the earth

Give us to drink the wine of compassion

Give us to eat the bread that is you

Nourish us well and teach us to fashion

Lives that are holy and hearts that are true

Not in the dark of buildings confining
Not in some heaven light years away
But here in this place the new light is shining
Now is the kingdom, now is the day
Gather us in and hold us forever
Gather us in and make us your own
Gather us in, all peoples together
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones

Prayer of Confession

The Ray Family

Lord, sin is a hard word. I try so hard.
I do not do the good I want to do.

Is sin unavoidable, so that the world can see your grace?
I do not do the good I mean to do.

The broken frustrations of the world surround me and are within me.
I seek your will, forgetting that it has found me.

I long to feel a flood of forgiveness, to be transfigured, to be different- somehow, someway.
But you made me, you know me, you love me.

Forgive my sins- what I do, what I avoid.
Forgive my sins- what I say that should go unsaid, what I hold back that should be shouted.

Forgive my sins- the successes I credit to myself, forgetting your Spirit.
Forgive my sins- the shortcomings I see in others, forgetting my own.

Forgive us. Renew us. Transfigure us.

Assurance of Pardon

One: ...Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Response

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”
ST. ANNE

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Romans 10:5-15

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” 6 But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) 7 “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). 8 But what does it say?

“The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9 because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. 11 The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. 13 For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

14 But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? 15 And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

The Arc of the Confession

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

Lord the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus Light of the world shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me shine on me

Refrain

Shine Jesus shine
Fill this land
With the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow
Flood the nations
With grace and mercy
Send forth Your word Lord
And let there be light

Lord I come to Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood I may enter Your brightness
Search me try me consume all my darkness
Shine on me shine on me (*to refrain*)

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer Over the Elements, Prayers of Intercessions, Concluding with 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.

Post Communion Prayer

Hymn #2212 (Sing the Faith)

“My Life Flows On”

My life flows on in endless song;
above earth's lamentation,
I hear the clear, though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.

Refrain

No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing? *(to refrain)*

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing? *(to refrain)*

Benediction

Announcements for August 9th

Good Morning, grace, mercy, and peace in the name of Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Welcome to Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church. We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us this day. If this is your first time joining us, or if it has been a while since you have worshipped with us. I want you to pause the video right now and go into your kitchen, and find juice, wine, spirits, or water as well as a slice of bread or a cracker because today we will celebrate communion. Please snap a photo and share with us “your communion table” and send them to us so we can be bonded together at the table where Christ communes with us through the presence of the Holy Spirit to redeem and fulfill...

Welcome back. Following our worship service today, August 9th, we will hold another one of our mission drive-thru opportunities which will take place from 2-4pm in front of Gailey Hall on our church campus. Please stop by as we bless the backpacks and pray for students, parents, and teachers this school year. We are also accepting food donations to CAC as well as gently used laptops and tablets to support Los Ninos Primero as they serve children virtually this school year. This has also been a time when some of you have dropped off checks to our COVID-19 Fund and we welcome that benevolence as well.

We also want to celebrate with you. Last Sunday, you as a congregation voted unanimously to welcome Isaac Toney-Schmitt as your new Associate Pastor for Faith Formation. We want to thank you for your participation and your shared excitement for Isaac. We are currently working on plans for you to welcome and get to know him and his wife, Christina. We know this will be greatly different from a normal transition, but I know we will forge ahead with the hospitality that embodies who we are at Mount Vernon.

Next Sunday, your church Session will meet and we will continue our monthly discernment on how best to respond to the pandemic. Please keep your Session in your prayers as they discuss how to emphasize safety while celebrating God as fully as possible. As always, we will keep you updated on any decisions we make.

Finally, but most importantly, we want to be in prayer for you. It is a privilege to hear your stories and to serve you at this time. As a church, we will emerge from this pandemic with a stronger sense of who we are and what we are called to do. I believe that because I believe we are closer now than before. Let us continue to be in prayer for our faith community. For those isolated, those preparing for school, those who work in healthcare, and those who are vulnerable at this time. We continue to pray for those recovering from surgeries and other infirmities. We also pray for those mourning the loss of extended family. Beyond our walls, let us be in prayer for the world as we continue to live with the effects of the pandemic, let us be in prayer as we seek justice and equality, and let us pray for peace for the people of Beirut and other places near and far crying out this day.

As we lift up and empty our hearts and minds to God, may we find clarity to focus solely on worshipping and communing with Jesus Christ...

Also, don't forget our Taize service that will take place this coming Wednesday, August 12th at 7pm on Zoom.