



August 23, 2020

PRELUDE

*Sing Praise to God*

arr. P. Laubengayer

WELCOME

Darren Cushman Wood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunil Kotian

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation.

**People: To God all praise and glory.**

Leader: Sing praise to the God of power who corrects the nations with peace and justice.

**People: To God all praise and glory.**

Leader: Sing praise to the God of love who defends the weak with faithful compassion.

**People: To God all praise and glory.**

Leader: Sing praise to the God of our salvation who restores us with the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People: To God all praise and glory.**

OPENING HYMN #126

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

***Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,  
the God of pow'r, the God of love, the God of our salvation.***

***With healing balm my soul is filled and ev'ry faithless murmur stilled:  
To God all praise and glory.***

***Let all who name Christ's holy name give God all praise and glory;  
let all who own his pow'r proclaim aloud the wondrous story!***

***Cast each false idol from its throne, for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:  
To God all praise and glory.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Mark Goetzinger

**O Sovereign of our souls,  
through the reading of the scriptures,  
show us how to love you with all our heart and  
teach us how to serve you with all our strength,  
in the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 10:12-20

So now, O Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you? Only to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all God's ways, to love and serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the

commandments of the Lord your God and the divine decrees that I am commanding you today, for your own well-being. Although heaven and the heaven of heavens belong to the Lord your God, the earth with all that is in it, yet the Lord had a heart of love for your ancestors alone and chose you, their descendants after them, out of all the peoples, as it is today. Circumcise, then, the foreskin of your heart, and do not be stubborn any longer.

For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them with food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the Lord your God; you shall only worship the Lord, and you shall hold fast, and by God's name you shall swear.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SOLO *God of the Movements and Martyrs* D. LaMotte  
Mark Gilgallon, soloist; Steven Potts, piano

God of the movements and martyrs, God of the powerless child,  
God of the broken and hopeless and unreconciled,  
God of the just and the faithful, God of the night and the day,  
God of the whole of creation, in your name we pray.  
Many have followed the savior into the face of the storm,  
strengthened by long generations, by love they were formed.  
In basements of tall steepled churches, in shadows of fences and walls,  
in alleys and hallways of power, they answered your call.

God of the circle that holds us, God of the ones pushed away,  
we will reach out to our neighbors, in Your name we'll say:  
no matter your creed or your country, no matter the hue of your skin,  
your age, who you love, or the body your soul was born in,  
no matter the places you're broken, no matter the things you have done,  
lay down that weight on the altar, a new day's begun.  
You are a child of the maker, you are beloved and known,  
join us in work of the kingdom, we welcome you home.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE Psalm 26

Leader: Declare me innocent, O Lord,  
for I have acted with integrity;  
I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

**People: Put me on trial, Lord, and cross-examine me.  
Test my motives and my heart.  
For I am always aware of your unfailing love,  
and I have lived according to your truth.**

Leader: I do not spend time with liars  
or go along with hypocrites.

**People: I hate the gatherings of those who do evil,  
and I refuse to join in with the wicked.  
I wash my hands to declare my innocence.**

Leader: I come to your altar, O Lord,  
singing a song of thanksgiving

and telling of all your wonders.

**People: I love your sanctuary, Lord,  
the place where your glorious presence dwells.**

Leader: Don't let me suffer the fate of sinners.  
Don't condemn me along with murderers.

**People: Their hands are dirty with evil schemes,  
and they constantly take bribes.**

Leader: But I am not like that; I live with integrity.

**People: So redeem me and show me mercy.**

HYMN OF PRAYER #432

*Jesu, Jesu*

**Refrain:**

***Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.***

***Kneels at the feet of his friends,  
silently washes their feet,  
Master who acts as a slave to them. [Refrain]***

***Loving puts us on our knees,  
serving as though we are slaves,  
this is the way we should live with you. [Refrain]***

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Sunil Kotian

Leader: God, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

DOXOLOGY #94 (PLEASE STAND)

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

SECOND LESSON

3 John 5-8

Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the friends, even though they are strangers to you; they have testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on in a manner worthy of God; for they began their journey for the sake of Christ, accepting no support from non-believers. Therefore we ought to support such people, so that we may become co-workers with the truth.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*The Forgotten Letters of the Bible: Third John*

Darren Cushman Wood

HYMN OF DEDICATION #581

*Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

***Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need,  
who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed:  
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,  
consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift that you impart.***

***Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go  
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;  
hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,  
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know, and live.***

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*Trumpet Tune*

A. Carter

Prayer requests can be sent to [prayers@northchurchindy.com](mailto:prayers@northchurchindy.com).

*The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God and in remembrance  
and celebration of the life of G. Edward Alley by wife, Susan Alley and his children, Jay Alley,  
Cari (Alley) Kluger and Steve Alley and their families.*

**This week's worship leaders:**

Darren Cushman Wood  
*Senior Pastor*  
Sunil Kotian  
*Pastoral Intern*  
John Hague &  
Dick Tiller-Luchtman  
*Audio Visual*  
Mark Goetzinger  
*Liturgist*  
Heather Hinton  
*Organist*  
Mark Gilgallon  
*Director of Music*  
Steven Potts  
*Piano*

Upcoming Worship Services on Sunday, August 30  
**11 a.m. via Livestream**

Youth Group, Sundays, 4-5pm via Zoom  
Email [coryunthank@northchurchindy.com](mailto:coryunthank@northchurchindy.com) for info

School 43 Uniform Drive  
Deliver to Pastor Darren  
4324 N Park Ave, Indianapolis 46205  
Deadline: September 7

Fall Small Groups Forming  
7-week study to follow sermon series  
Beginning virtually the week of Sept. 13  
Groups meeting various days and times  
To register email [asell@northchurchindy.com](mailto:asell@northchurchindy.com)