



August 22, 2021 - Livestream  
13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

Heather Hinton

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Darren Cushman Wood

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

*O Divine Redeemer*

C. Gounod  
Anna Briscoe, piano

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Now is the time to heed the call

**People: and bear witness to God's name.**

Leader: This is the place to share Christ's love

**People: and become the vessels of God's Redeeming Word.**

\*OPENING HYMN #2246

*Deep in the Shadows of the Past*

*Deep in the shadows of the past, far out from settled lands,  
some nomads traveled with their God across the desert sands.  
The dawning hope of humankind by them was sensed and shown;  
a promise calling them ahead, a future yet unknown.*

*While others bowed to changeless gods they met a mystery,  
invisible, without a name: "I AM WHAT I WILL BE";  
and by their tents, around their fires, in story, song and law,  
they praised, remembered, handed on a past that promised more.*

*From Exodus to Pentecost the promise changed and grew,  
while some, remembering the past, recorded what they knew,  
or with their letters and laments, their prophecy and praise,  
recovered, kindled and expressed new hope for changing days.*

*For all the writings that survived, for leaders, long ago,  
who sifted, copied, and preserved the Bible that we know,  
give thanks, and find its story yet our promise, strength and call,  
the model of emerging faith, alive with hope for all.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bill Groth

**O God, with the presence of your Spirit,  
quiet our minds to hear your Word  
and settle our hearts to receive your renewal,  
through Jesus Christ our Teacher. Amen.**

*\*Please stand as you are able or comfortable.*

<sup>21</sup>Is there a conflict, then, between God's law and God's promises? Absolutely not! If the law could give us new life, we could be made right with God by obeying it. <sup>22</sup>But the Scriptures declare that we are all prisoners of sin, so we receive God's promise of freedom only by believing in Jesus Christ. <sup>23</sup>Before the way of faith in Christ was available to us, we were placed under guard by the law. We were kept in protective custody, so to speak, until the way of faith was revealed. <sup>24</sup>Let me put it another way. The law was our guardian until Christ came; it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith.

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

*O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*

arr. P. Langford  
Kate Roberts, soloist

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow thru the rain, and feel the promise is not vain, that morn shall tearless be.

O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;  
my heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be.

\*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Psalm 19

Sunil Kotian

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**People: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.**

Leader: There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

**People: yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.**

Leader: In the heavens God has set a tent for the sun,  
which comes out like a bridegroom from the wedding canopy,  
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

**People: Its rising is from the end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to the end of them;  
and nothing is hid from its heat.**

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

**People: the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;**

Leader: the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

**People: the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;**

Leader: the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;

**People: the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.**

Leader: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;

**People: sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.**

Leader: Moreover by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.

**People: But who can detect their errors?  
Clear me from hidden faults.**

Leader: Keep back your servant also from the insolent;  
do not let them have dominion over me.

Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

**People: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

***Come down, O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine,  
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing; O Comforter, draw near,  
within my heart appear, and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.***

***O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.***

***And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the power of human telling; for none can guess its grace,  
till Love create a place wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: God, in your mercy....

People: Hear our prayer.

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

*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

2 Chronicles 34:19-28

<sup>19</sup> When Josiah heard what was in The Book of God’s Law, he tore his clothes in sorrow. <sup>20</sup> At once he called together Hilkiah, Shaphan, Ahikam son of Shaphan, Abdon son of Micah, and his own servant Asaiah. He said, <sup>21</sup> “The Lord must be furious with me and everyone else in Israel and Judah, because our ancestors did not obey the laws written in this book. Go find out what the Lord wants us to do.” <sup>22</sup> Hilkiah and the four other men left right away and went to talk with Huldah the prophet. Her husband was Shallum, who was in charge of the king’s clothes. Huldah lived in the northern part of Jerusalem, and when they met in her home, <sup>23</sup> she said: “You were sent here by King Josiah, and this is what the Lord God of Israel says to him: <sup>24</sup> ‘Josiah, I am the Lord! And I intend to punish this country and everyone in it, just as this book says. <sup>25</sup> The people of Judah and Israel have rejected me. They have offered sacrifices to foreign gods and have worshiped their own idols. I can’t stand it any longer. I am furious. <sup>26-27</sup> Josiah, listen to what I am going to do. I noticed how sad you were when you heard that this country and its people would be completely wiped out. You even tore your clothes in sorrow, and I heard you cry. <sup>28</sup> So before I destroy this place, I will let you die in peace.’ ” The men left and reported to Josiah what Huldah had said.

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