



September 12, 2021 - Livestream  
16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

Heather Hinton

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunil Kotian

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

*The Gift of Love*

arr. J. Carter

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, Love Divine, and dwell in our hearts.

**People: Breathe, O breathe your loving Spirit in us.**

Leader: Come, Almighty One, and deliver us.

**People: Breathe, O breathe your loving Spirit in us.**

Leader: Come, Joy of Heaven, and finish your new creation in us.

\*OPENING HYMN #384

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

***Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;  
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.***

***Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!  
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest.  
Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.***

***Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.***

***Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.  
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;  
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Barbara Wright

**Everlasting God,  
whose tenacious love holds us:  
make our hearts the house of your truth,  
and make our minds the realm of your wisdom  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Hosea 11:1-9

- <sup>1</sup>When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.  
<sup>2</sup>The more I called them, the more they went from me;  
they kept sacrificing to the Baals, and offering incense to idols.  
<sup>3</sup>Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms;  
but they did not know that I healed them.  
<sup>4</sup>I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love.  
I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks.  
I bent down to them and fed them.  
<sup>5</sup>They shall return to the land of Egypt, and Assyria shall be their king,  
because they have refused to return to me.  
<sup>6</sup>The sword rages in their cities, it consumes their oracle-priests,  
and devours because of their schemes.  
<sup>7</sup>My people are bent on turning away from me.  
To the Most High they call, but he does not raise them up at all.  
<sup>8</sup>How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel?  
How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim?  
My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender.  
<sup>9</sup>I will not execute my fierce anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim;  
for I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst,  
and I will not come in wrath.

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*They'll Know We are Christians*

arr. L. Larson

Voices in Accord; Kelley Warbinton, flute

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord; and we pray that all unity may one day be restored.  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.  
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand; and together we'll spread the news that God is in our  
land. And they'll know we are Christians by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.  
We will work with each other, we will work side by side; and we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's  
pride. And they'll know we are Christians by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.  
Praise the Creator from whom all things come, and praise to Christ Jesus, the only Son;  
Praise to the Spirit who makes us one. God's Spirit makes us one.  
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord; and we pray that all unity may one day be restored.  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

\*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Psalm 36:5-10

Diane Gattone

Leader: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,

**People: your faithfulness to the clouds.**

Leader: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,  
your judgments are like the great deep;

**People: you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.**

Leader: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**People: They feast on the abundance of your house,  
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

Leader: For with you is the fountain of life;  
in your light we see light.

**People: O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,  
and your salvation to the upright of heart!**

HYMN OF PRAYER #111

*How Can We Name a Love*

v.1-3

***How can we name a Love that wakens heart and mind,  
indwelling all we know or think or do or seek or find?  
Within our daily world, in every human face,  
Love's echoes sound and God is found, hid in the commonplace.***

***If we awoke to life built on a rock of care  
that asked no great reward but firm, assured, was simply there,  
we can, with parents' names, describe, and thus adore,  
Love unconfined, a father kind, a mother strong and sure.***

***When people share a task, and strength and skills unite  
in projects old or new, to make or do with shared delight,  
our Friend and Partner's will is better understood,  
that all should share, create, and care, and know that life is good.***

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.**

HYMN #111

*How Can We Name a Love*

v.4

***So in a hundred names, each day we all can meet  
a presence, sensed and shown at work, at home, or in the street.  
Yet every name we see, shines in a brighter sun:  
In Christ alone is Love full grown and life and hope begun.***

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Sunil Kotian

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Beloved, Let Us Love*

M. McDonald  
Cathedral Singers

God sent his only Son to the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love.  
If God so loved, Beloved, let us love one another for love is from God, and everyone who loves is born of him;  
and God is love. Beloved, let us love one another that we may abide in God, and he in us.  
There is no fear in love. God's perfect love shall cast away all fear. By this we know we are his children when we  
love God and keep his Word. For whosoever is born of God overcomes the world. There is no greater love, if  
God so loved the world.

\*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

1 John 4:7-16

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent God's only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent God's Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in God and God in us, because God has given us of the Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Ripe Faith Part 1: Love*

Darren Cushman Wood

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION #408

*The Gift of Love*

***Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,  
and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.***

***Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,  
but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.***

***Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole.  
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.***

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

arr. J. Raney

*The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God and  
in memory of Charles Blackwell (Daddy), Genieve Blackwell (Mother), Hosea Timothy Blackwell (Brother),  
Osma Spurlock (Playmate), and Kyle Anderson (Godson) by Jacqueline Blackwell Leonard*

This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood, Senior Pastor  
Sunil Kotian, Pastor of Mission & Outreach  
Diane Gattone, Pastor of Care & Nurture  
Barbara Wright, Liturgist  
John Hague & Eric Russell, Audio Visual  
Mark Gilgallon, Director of Music  
Heather Hinton, Organist

This week's sign-ups:

Volunteer at Bread and Bowl  
Email [skotian@northchurchindy.com](mailto:skotian@northchurchindy.com)

Volunteer at Farmers Market on September 16  
Email [skotian@northchurchindy.com](mailto:skotian@northchurchindy.com)

"Major Issues for the Minor Prophets" Bible Study  
Wednesdays 6:30pm zoom, begins September 15,  
Email [jharrington@northchurchindy.com](mailto:jharrington@northchurchindy.com)

Land Development Forums  
Fellowship Hall, Sunday, September 26, 9:45am  
Zoom, Monday, September 27, 6:30pm  
Email [jharrington@northchurchindy.com](mailto:jharrington@northchurchindy.com)