



August 18, 2024 – Livestream
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Wallace

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

arr. D. Blackwell

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, let us gather in joy

People: to celebrate the divine dance of life and praise.

Leader: Come, join the dance of worship

People: as God leads us with grace and delight!

Leader: Every note of praise and whisper of prayer is a testament to God's love.

*OPENING HYMN: #261

Lord of the Dance

***I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.
At Bethlehem I had my birth.***

***Refrain: Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.***

***I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they would not follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
they came to me and the dance went on. [Refrain]***

***I danced on the sabbath when I cured the lame,
the holy people said it was a shame;
they whipped and they stripped and they hung me high;
and they left me there on a cross to die. [Refrain]***

***I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;
they buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance and I still go on. [Refrain]***

*They cut me down and I leapt up high,
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. [Refrain]*

OPENING PRAYER

**God of love,
plant us in the soil of your grace.
Nurture us with the strength of Christ,
the vine of everlasting life.
Enlighten us with the wisdom of your Spirit,
which flows through all our days.
Abide in us, that we may abide in you and your love.
In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

ANTHEM

Cantique de Jean Racine

G. Fauré

Summer Choir; Emily Justice, flute

O Redeemer divine, our sole hope of salvation,
eternal light of the earth and the sky,
we kneel in adoration, O Savior, turn on us thy loving eye!
Send down on us the fire of thy grace all consuming,
whose wondrous might dispersed the powers of hell,
and rouse our slumbering souls with radiance all illumining,
that they may waken thy mercy to tell!
O Christ bestow thy blessing on us, we implore thee,
who here are gathered on penitent knee.
Accept the hymns we chant to thine eternal glory
and these thy gifts we return to thee!

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE #844

Psalm 121

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From whence does my help come?

**People: My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: The Lord will not let your foot be moved,
the Lord who keeps you will not slumber.

**People: Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

Leader: The Lord is your keeper;

**People: the Lord is your shade
on your right hand.**

Leader: The sun shall not smite you by day,

People: nor the moon by night.

Leader: The Lord will keep you from all evil,
and will keep your life.

**People: The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and for evermore.**

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PRAYER #395

Take Time to Be Holy

***Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;
abide in him always, and feed on his word.
Make friends of God's children, help those who are weak,
forgetting in nothing his blessing to seek.***

***Take time to be holy, the world rushes on;
spend much time in secret with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus, like him thou shalt be;
thy friends in thy conduct his likeness shall see.***

***Take time to be holy, let him be thy guide,
and run not before him, whatever betide.
In joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord,
and, looking to Jesus, still trust in his word.***

***Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul,
each thought and each motive beneath his control.
Thus led by his spirit to fountains of love,
thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Darren Cushman Wood

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

**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.

MUSICAL RESPONSE #2157

Come and Fill Our Hearts

sung twice

***Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Alleluia!***

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Darren Cushman Wood

OFFERTORY SOLO

Allegro
from *Fantasia No. 5*

G.P. Telemann
Emily Justice, flute

*Doxology #94

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!***

*GOSPEL LESSON

John 15:5-13

⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Connection

Amy Sell

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #310

He Lives

***I serve a risen Savior; he's in the world today;
I know that he is living, whatever foes may say.
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,
and just the time I need him, he's always near.***

**Refrain: *He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.***

***In all the world around me I see his loving care,
and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair.
I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast;
the day of his appearing will come at last. [Refrain]***

***Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing
eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!***

***The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;
none other is so loving, so good and kind. [Refrain]***

FAREWELL TO AMY

Amy: I thank you,
the members and friends of North United Methodist Church,
for the love and support you have shown me
while I have ministered among you.
I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted.
I pray to God to complete
and make whole that which I have done.
As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned from you.

**People: We receive your thankfulness and offer our peace.
We are grateful for your time among us,
your service to us, and your leadership of us.
Your influence on our faith will not leave us
with your departure.**

Amy: I accept your gratitude and acceptance,
trusting that our time together
and our parting are pleasing to God.
I release you from turning to me and depending on me.
I encourage your continuing ministry here and will pray for you.

Pastor Darren:

Let us pray. Eternal God,
whose steadfast love for us is from everlasting to everlasting,
we give you thanks for cherished memories
and commend one another into your care
as we move in new directions.
Keep us one in your love forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

Amy Sell

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Go Ye Now in Peace

J. Eilers
Cathedral Singers

Go ye now in peace, and know that the love of God will guide you.
Feel his presence here beside you showing you the way.
In your time of trouble, when hurt and despair are there to grieve you,
know that the Lord will never leave you. He will bring you courage.
Know that the God who sent his Son to die that you might live
will never leave you lost and alone in his beloved world. Go ye now in peace.

POSTLUDE

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

arr. N. Harmon

The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God and in memory of Dorothy P. Esterline on what would have been her 110th birthday, August 20th, by her family.

Upcoming Events:

Amy Sell's Farewell
Today, Reception 9:45am; Luncheon, 12 noon

Farmers Market Dates
Sept. 5, and Sept. 19, 4:00 — 6:00pm

Worship Without Walls
Sept. 8, only one service at 11:00am

Sunday School Kickoff
September 15 at 9:45am

Children's Choirs resume
September 15, following the 11:00am service

Scan to sign up for our newsletter:



This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood
Senior Pastor

Amy Sell
Minister of Discipleship & Formation

Brandon Wallace
Minister of Youth & Young Adults

Angie Kattmann
Liturgist

John Hague, James Horton
& Allen McCormack

Audio Visual
Mark Gilgallon
Music Director

Heather Hinton
Organist