

August 25, 2024 – Livestream Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS Brandon Wallace

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

Quadrille

Duet for viola & piano

B. Archibald Susan Chan, viola Becky Archibald, piano

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sing praise to God whose power and love sustain us.

People: To God all praise and glory!

Leader: Sing praise to God our Mother who gently leads us.

People: To God all praise and glory!

Leader: Let all people sing praise and glory to the God of our salvation!

*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 power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.

The Lord is never far away, but through all grief distressing, an ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing.

As with a mother's tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band:

To God all praise and glory.

Thus, all my toilsome way along, I sing aloud thy praises, that earth may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises. Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, both soul and body bear your part: 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 power 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.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God,
whom heaven cannot contain,
meet us here with a steadfast love
that answers our feeble prayers.
Complete our garbled praise
with the perfect pitch of your grace
we find in Jesus Christ our Sanctuary. Amen.

ANTHEM Everlasting God T. Fettke
Summer Choir

Where can I go from your spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? To the heavens, on the wings of the dawn to the far side of the sea? To the depths and into death itself? Even darkness is not darkness to you. Everywhere I go you are there, filling all the earth and heaven above. Lord, you walk before and behind me, I'm surrounded by your steadfast love. Everywhere I go you are there; your eternal presence goes before. You are beauty, you are wisdom, you are majesty, you are power, you are everlasting God and I am yours! Alleluia! Search me, O God, and know my heart. Know my heart and see if there be any sin in me, know my thoughts and lead me in the way everlasting! Refrain

*Canticle of Praise Psalm 84

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place,

O Lord of hosts!

People: My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and flesh sing for joy

to the living God.

Leader: O Lord of hosts, my Ruler and my God,

at your altars even the sparrow finds a home,

and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young,

People: Blessed are those who dwell in your house,

ever singing thy praise!

Leader: Blessed are those whose strength is in you,

in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

People: As they go through the valley of tears

they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools.

Leader: They go from strength to strength;

the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

People: O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;

give ear, O God of Jacob! Behold our shield, O God;

look upon the face of your anointed!

Leader: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

People: I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God

than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Leader: For the Lord God is a sun and shield,

and bestows favor and honor.

People: No good thing does the Lord withhold

from those who walk uprightly.

O Lord of hosts,

blessed are those who trust in you!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Ephesians 6:18-20

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PRAYER #328

Surely the Presence of the Lord

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;
surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

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

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

OFFERTORY DUET

Tango l'Automne

B. Archibald Susan Chan, viola Becky Archibald, piano *Doxology #94

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 Kings 8:1, 22-30, 41-43

¹ Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion.

²² Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. ²³He said, 'O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, ²⁴the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. ²⁵Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, "There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me." ²⁶Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

²⁷ 'But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! ²⁸Have regard to your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; ²⁹that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, "My name shall be there", that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. ³⁰Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.

⁴¹ 'Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name ⁴²—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays towards this house, ⁴³then hear in heaven your dwelling-place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

What Happens When We Pray?

Darren Cushman Wood

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #2197

Lord of All Hopefulness

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy: Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe: Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:

Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm: Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

POSTLUDE Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

arr. M. Wolniakowski

The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God and in honor of Donald Eugene Smith-Brown's ("Mr. Don's") birthday.

Upcoming Events:

Farmers Market Dates
September 5, and September 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

Talk on Christian Nationalism by Dr. Andrew L. Whitehead September 15, 4:00pm

This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood
Senior Pastor
Brandon Wallace
Minister of Christian Education
John Hague, James Horton
& Allen McCormack
Audio Visual
Mark Gilgallon
Music Director
Heather Hinton
Organist

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^{*}THE CHARGE AND BLESSING