

Order of Service: The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2020

Prelude *Improvisation on "Balm in Gilead"*

Traditional Spiritual, arr. Joel Raney
Dr. Gukhui Han, Piano

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God forever and ever.**

Collect for Purity *(people muted)*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn *Taste and See*

James E. Moore

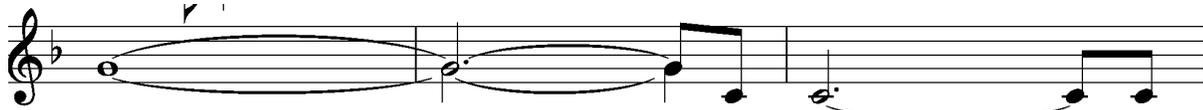
(Mute your device and sing loudly and joyfully)

Taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness
of the Lord. O Taste and see. Taste and
see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord. **Fine**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times.
2. Glo - ri - fy the Lord with me.
3. Wor - ship the Lord all you peo - ple.



1. — His praise — shall al - ways — be on my
 2. — To - geth - er — let us all — praise His
 3. — You'll — want for noth - ing — if you



1. lips; — my soul — shall
 2. name. — I called — the
 3. ask. — Taste — and



1. glo - ry — in the Lord; — for
 2. Lord — and He an - swered me; — from
 3. see — that God is good; — in



1. He — has been — so good to me. —
 2. all — my trou - bles — He set me free. —
 3. Him — we need — put all our trust. —

Collect of the Day (*people muted*)

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Reading *Leviticus 19:33-35* (*people muted*)

A reading from the Book of Leviticus.

When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God. You shall not cheat in measuring length, weight, or quantity.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *I've been in de storm so long*

Traditional Spiritual, arr. H.T. Burleigh
Susan Van Wig, Soloist

We have chosen to publish the words for this Negro Spiritual (the tradition of calling it a Negro Spiritual is one that goes back and gives honor to the original composers—who were called Negros until last century) in the dialect included in the 1927 edition by American ethnomusicologist and arranger Harry T. Burleigh. Through his anthology of “Negro Spirituals,” Burleigh brought the Spiritual form into mainline churches through beautiful, contemporary arrangements that gave honor to the words sung as he heard them sung.

I've been in de storm so long,
I've been in de storm so long children,
I've been in de storm so long,
Oh, give me little time to pray.

Oh when I get to heav'n, I'll walk all about,
Oh give me little time to pray.
Dere'll be nobody dere to turn me out,
Oh, give me little time to pray.

Oh, let me tell my mother how I come along,
Oh, give me little time to pray.
With a hung down head an' a aching heart,
Oh, give me little time to pray.

I've been in de storm so long,
I've been in de storm so long children,
I've been in the storm so long,
Oh, give me little time to pray.

I've been in de storm so long,
I've been in de storm so long children,
I've been in de storm so long,
Oh, give me little time to pray.

A Reading *Isaiah 51:1-6 (people muted)*

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm *It's Movement Time*

Las Cafeteras

The Biblical psalms are the prayers of the people of Israel. For our Season of Deconstructing Racism, our psalms will poems, reflections, and songs that are the prayers of our communities of color now.

Epistle Nathan Carbajal's Letter to the Church (*people muted*)

Nathan is a new member of the St. Luke's community and grounds his Christian practice in liberation theology. He recently graduated from Cal State Long Beach with a degree in Chicano/Latino studies. Nathan has experience in union and community organizing and also volunteers with St. Luke's shower program.

The Gospel *Matthew 16:13-20 (people muted)*

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon (*people muted*)

Rev. Dr. André Bennett
Associate Pastor, Zion Baptist Church, Lynn, MA
President, ECCO (Essex County Community Organization) Board

Silence follows the sermon.

Music *L'orage (Storm)*

Johann Friedrich Franz Burgmüller
William Morris, Piano

Affirmation of Faith: Our Creed

(people muted)

**We believe in God, the Father almighty;
Creator of the heavens and the earth;
Creator of all peoples and all cultures;
Creator of all tongues and races.
We believe in Jesus Christ, God's Beloved Son;
God made flesh in a person for all humanity,
God made flesh in an age for all ages,
God made flesh in one culture for all cultures,
God made flesh in love and grace for all creation.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit
through whom God became incarnate in Jesus Christ,
in whom God is present in our peoples and in our cultures;
through whom, God the Creator of all that exists
gives us power to become new creatures;
the Spirit's infinite gifts make us one people,
the Body of Jesus Christ.**

**We believe in the Church universal
because it is a sign of God's Reign;
whose faithfulness is shown in many hues,
where all colors paint a single landscape,
where all tongues sing God's praise.**

**We believe in the Reign of God—the day of the Great Fiesta,
when all creation's colors
will form a harmonious rainbow;
when all the peoples will join in joyful banquet,
when all tongues of the universe
will be united in one choir of praise.**

**And because we believe, we commit ourselves
to believe for those who do not believe,
to love for those who do not love,
to dream for those who do not dream,
until what we expect becomes a reality. Amen.**

Anthem *Sapagkat Ang Diyos Ay Pag-ibig (Because God is love)*

Erik Santos
Harlee Balajadia, Soloist

Pag-ibig ang siyang pumukaw
Sa ating puso't kaluluwa
Ang siyang nagdulot sa ating buhay
Ng gintong aral at pag-asa

*Love is what inspires us
In our hearts and souls
What brought us to life
Of golden lessons and hope*

Pag-ibig ang siyang buklod natin
Di mapapawi kailan pa man
Sa puso't diwa tayo'y isa lamang
Kahit na tayo'y magkawalay

*Love is our bond
It will never be erased
In heart and soul we are one
Even if we are separated*

Pagka't ang Diyos natin Diyos ng pag-ibig
Magamahalan tayo't magtulungan
At kung tayo'y bigo, ay h'wag limutin
Na may Diyos tayong nagmamahal

*Because our God is a God of love
Let us love and work together
And if we fail, do not forget
That we have a God who loves*

Sikapin sa ating pagsuyo
Ating ikalat sa buong mundo
Pag-ibig ni Hesus ang siyang sumakop
Sa bawa't pusong uhaw sa pagsuyo

*Strive in our flattery
Let us spread all over the world
Jesus' love conquered
With every heart thirsty for flattery*

Pagka't ang Diyos natin Diyos ng pag-ibig
Magamahalan tayo't magtulungan
At kung tayo'y bigo, ay h'wag limutin
Na may Diyos tayong nagmamahal
Pagkat ang Diyos natin
Diyos ng pag ibig magmahalan tayo't
Magtulungan at kong tayo'y bigo
Ay wag limutin na may Diyos tayo
Nag mamahal Diyos ay pag ibig.

*Because our God is a God of love
Let us love and work together
And if we fail, do not forget
That we have a God who loves
Because our God
God of love let us love each other
Work together and I will fail us
Do not forget that we have God
Loving God is love.*

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Leader: In hope that the arc of history bends toward justice, we lift up our prayers for healing, saying: Bind us together, O God of love.

For the Church, that its prophetic voice and action may proclaim and claim the challenge to deconstruct racism breaking the hopeless cycles of poverty, ignorance, prejudice, and despair which degrade the sacred dignity of humankind, we pray:

Silence — Add your prayers, silently or aloud

Bind us together, O God of love.

For the wonder of creation, that we might use its resources rightly in the service of others and to the Glory of God, we pray:

Silence — Add your prayers, silently or aloud

Bind us together, O God of love.

For our country, that we might celebrate our racial diversity and the distinctive and rich contributions of every fiber of our cultural fabric, we pray:

Silence — Add your prayers, silently or aloud

Bind us together, O God of love.

For wise and decisive action on the part of local and national leaders, that the scandal of racism might be eradicated from our society, and equity and justice established as the law of the land, we pray:

Silence — Add your prayers, silently or aloud

Bind us together, O God of love.

For a reimagining of economic, political, and social systems that have resulted in the disproportionate suffering and death of people of color throughout our history and as revealed during the COVID-19 pandemic, we pray:

Silence — Add your prayers, silently or aloud

Bind us together, O God of love.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble: For those whose lives are closely linked with ours, and those connected to us as part of the human family. For refugees and prisoners; for the sick and suffering; for the lonely and despairing; for those facing violence; for all held down by prejudice or injustice, we pray:

Silence — Add your prayers, silently or aloud

Bind us together, O God of love.

For all who have died: For the faithful in every generation who have worked for justice; for prophets who called us to racial reconciliation; for martyrs who died because of hatred; and for all the communion of saints, we pray:

Silence — Add your prayers, silently or in your hearts

Bind us together, O God of love.

Presider: God of love, You created every human being in your image and you command us to love each other as you love us. Hear our prayers as we come before you, and inspire us to “do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you.” **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

The Litany of Reconciliation, based on the seven cardinal sins, was written in 1958 by Canon Joseph Poole, the first Precentor of the rebuilt Coventry Cathedral, which had been destroyed in World War II. This Litany is prayed every Friday in the ruins of Coventry Cathedral before the charred cross.

Presider: All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. And so, as a community and as individuals, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class,
Merciful God, forgive.

The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own,
Merciful God, forgive.

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,
Merciful God, forgive.

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,
Merciful God, forgive.

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,
Merciful God, forgive.

The lust which dishonors the bodies of men, women and children,
Merciful God, forgive.

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,
Merciful God, forgive.

Presider: Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. And may God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Anthem *One World, One Communion*

Pepper Choplin
Harlee Balajadia, Soloist

One world, one communion,
One faith in Christ, the Son.
One world, one communion,
And there is room for ev'ryone.
One world, one communion,
One faith in Christ, the Son.
One world, One communion,
And there is room for ev'ryone.

Wherever bread is broken and where the cup is
poured,
Brothers and sisters, we are one in the Lord.
Though many things divide us, with great
diversity,
Through the pow'r of love we will find unity.

Wherever people gather to share the bread and cup.
Though we are many, we are one in love.
So much we have in common,
though we are miles apart,
Through the Holy Spirit, we are one in heart.

So help us see there's one world, one
communion,
One faith in Christ, the Son.
One world, one communion
And there is room for ev'ryone.

There is room for all, for all who come.

And so we are one world, one communion,
One faith in Christ, the Son.
One world, one communion,
And there is room for ev'ryone.

As we pray the words of The Great Thanksgiving, know that we all are woven together in the Body of Christ as the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood unites us in heart and spirit.

The Great Thanksgiving (*Enriching Our Worship, Eucharistic Prayer A*)

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer (*people unmuted*)

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 for ever and ever. Amen.

As this broken bread was scattered over the mountains,
And was gathered together to become one,
So let Your Body of Faithful be gathered together
From the ends of the earth into Your kingdom. (*Didache, 1st Century*)

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, Blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of Your Church where Your blessed body and blood are offered, I long to offer You praise and thanksgiving. I believe that You are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray You to come into my heart, my soul, and my mind. I unite myself to You, and embrace You with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing separate me from You; let me serve You in this life until, by Your grace, I join You in Your reign of unending peace. Amen.

(St. Augustine of Hippo)

Blessing of Birthdays and Anniversaries

The Blessing

May God give you grace never to sell yourself short, grace to risk something big for something good, and grace to remember that the world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but love. In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Announcements

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Postlude *Sonata II, Andantino*

Joseph Boulogne, le Chevalier de Saint-Georges
Paul Cotton, Saxophone & Dr. Gukhui Han, Piano

Joseph Boulogne, was a prolific 18th century French composer once dubbed the 'Black Mozart'. Presumably intended as a compliment, this erasure of Boulogne's name not only subjugated him to an arbitrary white standard, but also diminished his truly unique place in Western classical music history.

Born the son of a slave and white plantation owner in 1745, Boulogne was a master fencer, violin virtuoso, leading conductor, and a composer in the court of Marie Antoinette. He was one of the first black colonels in the French army, leading 800 infantrymen and 200 cavalries in Europe's first all-black regiment. It was there he acquired his title, the Chevalier de Saint-Georges. He was a contemporary of Mozart and Haydn, and his wrote countless symphonies, sonatas, concertos, opera and string quartets.