

Order of Service: The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2020

Prelude *In Christ There is No East or West*

arr. Mark Hayes
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 *I want to walk as a child of the light*

Houston

(Mute your device and sing loudly and joyfully)



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ.



I want to fol-low Je-sus.
I want to look at Je-sus.
I want to be with Je-sus.

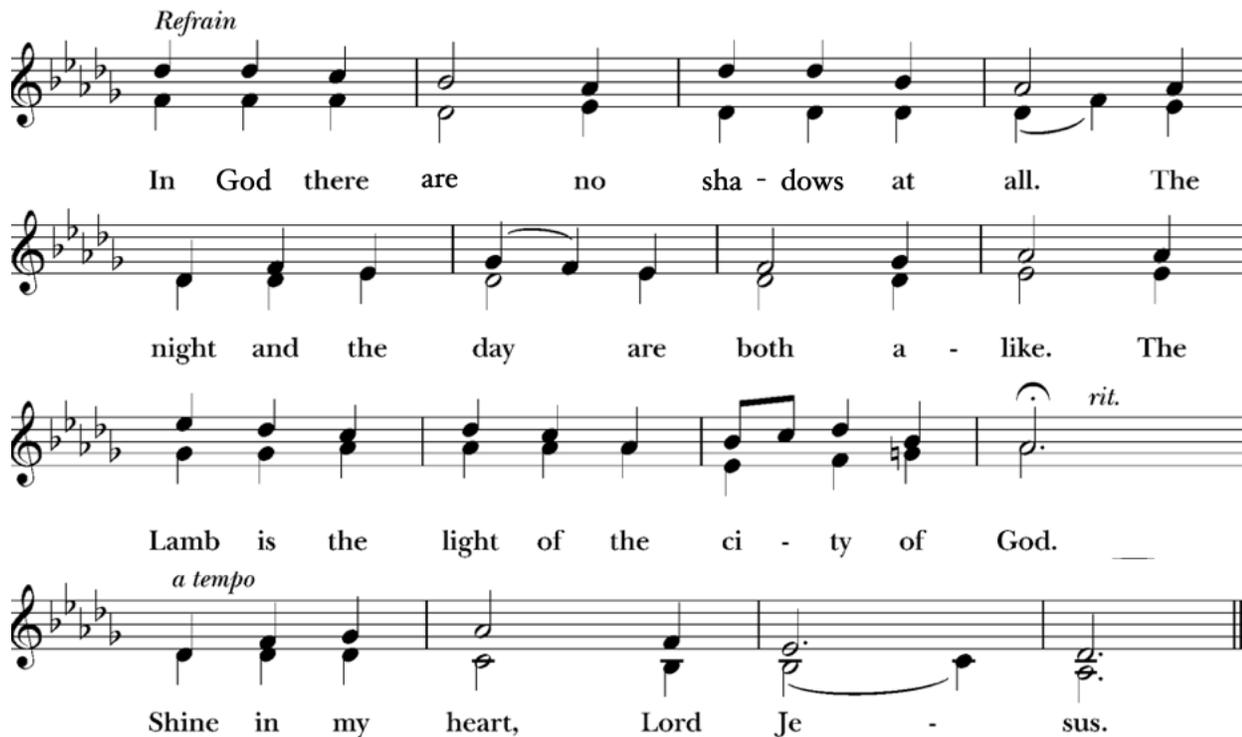


God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and
When we have run with pa-tience the race, we



star of my life is Je-sus.
show me the way to the Fa-ther.
shall know the joy of Je-sus.

Refrain



In God there are no sha - dows at all. The
 night and the day are both a - like. The
 Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God. *rit.*
a tempo
 Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Collect of the Day (*people muted*)

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

A Reading *Romans 13:8-14* (*people muted*)

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

Anthem *Wade in the Water*

Traditional Spiritual
Blair Webb, Soloist & Ukulele

Wade in the water.
Wade in the water, children.
Wade in the water.
God's gonna trouble the water.

Who are those children all dressed in white?
God's gonna trouble the water.
It must be the children of the Israelites.
God's gonna trouble the water.

Who are those children all dressed in red?
God's gonna trouble the water.
It must be the ones that Moses led.
God's gonna trouble the water.

Wade in the water.
Wade in the water, children.
Wade in the water.
God's gonna trouble the water.

Wade in the water.
Wade in the water, children.
Wade in the water.
God's gonna trouble the water.

Who are these children all dressed in blue?
God's gonna trouble the water.
It must be the ones that made it through.
God's gonna trouble the water.

“Wade in the Water” was used as a freedom song as the lyric gave geographical hints for a safer travel. Harriet Tubman often sang spiritual religious folk songs, so nobody thought much about this song. When she was missing, everyone who had heard her realized that this song had a double meaning. The song told escaping slaves to abandon the path and move into the water. By traveling along the water's edge or across a body of water, the slaves would throw chasing dogs and their keepers off the scent.

Epistle McKenzie Stribich's Letter to the Church (*people muted*)

McKenzie grew up in the church but found herself being called to a new spiritual home at the age of 22. She is now involved in several St. Luke's ministries. She is an artist and works part-time for an immigration attorney, and is currently trying to figure out what comes next..

Psalm “*Still I Rise*”

Maya Angelou

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.

You may write me down in history
With your bitter, twisted lies,
You may trod me in the very dirt
But still, like dust, I'll rise.

You may shoot me with your words,
You may cut me with your eyes,
You may kill me with your hatefulness,
But still, like air, I'll rise.

Does my sassiness upset you?
Why are you beset with gloom?
'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells
Pumping in my living room.

Does my sexiness upset you?
Does it come as a surprise
That I dance like I've got diamonds
At the meeting of my thighs?

Just like moons and like suns,
With the certainty of tides,
Just like hopes springing high,
Still I'll rise.

Out of the huts of history's shame
I rise
Up from a past that's rooted in pain
I rise
I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,
Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.

Did you want to see me broken?
Bowed head and lowered eyes?
Shoulders falling down like teardrops,
Weakened by my soulful cries?

Leaving behind nights of terror and fear
I rise
Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear
I rise
Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,
I am the dream and the hope of the slave.
I rise
I rise
I rise.

Does my haughtiness offend you?
Don't you take it awful hard
'Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines
Diggin' in my own backyard.

The Gospel *Matthew 18:15-20 (people muted)*

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

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

Jesus said, “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

The Sermon (*people muted*)

The Rev. Peter Huang
Pastoral Counselor & Adjunct Professor at Fuller Seminary
Founder of The Gathering

Silence follows the sermon.

Music Romance

William Grant Still (1895-1978)
Paul Cotton, Saxophone & Dr. Gukhui Han, Piano

Known as the “Dean of African-American Composers”, William Grant Still’s career was comprised of many “firsts”. He was the first African-American composer to conduct a major American symphony orchestra, the first to have a symphony performed by a leading orchestra and the first to have an opera performed by a major opera company.

Despite his meteoric rise, Still’s career was not without challenges due to racism. Still would arrange music for several movies, though he would leave an assignment on the 1943 film “Stormy Weather” due to 20th Century Fox’s mistreatment of people of color.

He faced similar segregation in 1939. He composed the “Song of a City” for the World’s Fair in New York City, but was unable to attend except on “Negro Day” without police protection.

Affirmation of Faith: Our Creed

Justo Gonzalez

(*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 *Faith, Hope and Love*

Based on *Canon in D* by Johann Pachelbel arr. David Ogden
Blair Webb, Soloist

The love of Christ has gathered us together,
Let us rejoice and be glad in him,
Let us fear and love the living God,
And love each other from the depths of our heart.

I give you a new commandment,
Love one another
Love one another
As I have loved you.

When we are together,
We should not be divided in mind,
Let there be an end to bitterness and quarrels
And in our midst be Christ our God.

Faith, hope and love,
Let theses remain among you
Faith, hope and love,
The greatest of theses is love, is love

In company with the blessed,
May we see your face in glory,
Pure and unbounded joy
Forever and ever.

Amen.

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

Climate Caretakers, June 2, 2020

Presider: Merciful God, we come before you with heavy hearts.

We lament that racial injustice is so tragically common in our society. **God hear us.**

We lament that precious lives are lost because of hate and ignorance. **God hear us.**

We lament the prejudice, violence, and racism that mock your teachings. **God hear us.**

We lament that the Church has too often stayed silent in the face of racism. **God hear us.**

We lament that the climate crisis disproportionately impacts People of Color. **God hear us.**

We lament that racial justice has become polarizing in our society. **God hear us.**

We lament that some church leaders have spoken foolish and hateful words, which support the systemic racism that is a cancer to our world. **God hear us.**

Forgive us, oh Lord, for our complicity in these sins. Open our ears to listen, our minds to learn, our hearts to break open, and our lives to do the work of justice.

Presider: May Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Anthem *How Beautiful*

Twila Paris arr. Lloyd Larson
Blair Webb, Soloist

How beautiful the hands
that served the wine and the bread and the children of earth.

How beautiful the feet
that walked the long dusty roads and the hill to the cross.

How beautiful, how beautiful
How beautiful is the body of Christ.

How beautiful the heart
that bled, that took all my sin and bore it instead.

How beautiful the tender eyes
that chose to forgive and never despise.

How beautiful, how beautiful
How beautiful is the body of Christ.

And as he laid down his life,
We offer this sacrifice that we will live just as he died:
Willing to pay the price, willing to pay the price.

How beautiful the feet
that bring the sound of good news and the love of the King.

How beautiful the hands
that serve the wine and the bread and the children of earth.

How beautiful, how beautiful
How beautiful is the body of Christ.

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 (*Book of Common Prayer, 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 *Chariot's A-comin'!*

Traditional Spiritual "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"
arr. Ruth Elaine Schram
Dr. Gukhui Han, Piano