



Order of Worship

January 10, 2021

10:00 a.m. Service

*During this time of social distancing, we ask that all singing and responsive reading be done from behind a mask.
Thank you for doing your part to keep yourself and others safe during the pandemic.*

Prelude

Introit

Safely Through Another Year

Mason/Newton

Call to Worship

*Hymn #343

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

1. Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.
2. Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.
3. Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.
4. So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Mighty and merciful God: by your word you have created us, by your son Jesus Christ you have redeemed us, and by your Spirit you have called us to be one people. We confess to you our sin. We doubt your promises and disobey your commandments. Cleanse us by your power and renew us with faith, that we may live joyful and obedient lives. In Christ's name, we pray.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

***Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, believe the Good News.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***Congregational Response**

Gloria Patri

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

***Hymn #592**

The Doxology

***Prayer of Commitment and 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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

***Choral Response**

Anthem

Sing the Song of Praise

Butler

Scripture Reading

Philippians 1:3-11

³ I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Time

***Hymn**

In the Sweet By and By

1. There's a land that is fairer than day, and by faith we can see it afar;
For the Father waits over the way to prepare us a dwelling place there.

Refrain:

In the sweet by and by,
We shall meet on that beautiful shore;
In the sweet by and by,
We shall meet on that beautiful shore.

2. We shall sing on that beautiful shore the melodious songs of the blest,
And our spirits shall sorrow no more, not a sigh for the blessing of rest. (Refrain)
3. To our bountiful Father above, we will offer the tribute of praise
For the glorious gift of His love, and the blessings that hallow our days. (Refrain)

¹ The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah.

Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Susa the citadel, ² that Hanani, one of my brothers, came with certain men from Judah. And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. ³ And they said to me, "The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire."

⁴ As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven. ⁵ And I said, "O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, ⁶ let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Even I and my father's house have sinned. ⁷ We have acted very corruptly against you and have not kept the commandments, the statutes, and the rules that you commanded your servant Moses. ⁸ Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples, ⁹ but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.' ¹⁰ They are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand. ¹¹ O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name, and give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man."

Now I was cupbearer to the king.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. David H. Green

**Lessons from Nehemiah:
Reconnect**

"And they said to me, 'The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire.'" (Nehemiah 1:3)

Prayers of the People***Hymn #438****Blest Be the Tie That Binds**

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.
2. Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.
3. We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.
4. From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;
And perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

Charge and Benediction**Closing Response****God Be with You Till We Meet Again**

God be with you till we meet again, by His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again.

***Postlude**

*Please stand if able.

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Loving God • Investing in People • Living Generously