

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

August 2, 2020 10:00 a.m.

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

First Presbyterian Church

Lansing, Michigan



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Collins

WELCOME

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

PRELUDE

Sergei Kvitko

CALL TO WORSHIP

David Viele

Leader: All who hunger – gather gladly.

People: We come to feast on the life-giving Word.

Leader: Here, love abounds and grace overflows.

People: Here, blessings multiply as gifts are shared.

Leader: Come – let us pour ourselves out in prayer and praise,

People: and open ourselves to renewal and rest.

OPENING HYMN

Break Thou the Bread of Life (GTG #460)

Megan Higle

The phrase, "bread of life" as a metaphor for scripture has misled many people into thinking of this hymn as being connected with the Lord's Supper, when its true subject is Bible study. Both the author and the composer were active in the work of the Chautauqua Assembly.

Break Thou the Bread of Life 460

1 Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
2 Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, now un - to me,

as thou didst break the loaves be - side the sea.
as thou didst bless the bread by Gal - i - lee.

Be - yond the sa - cred page I seek thee, Lord.
Then shall all bond - age cease, all fet - ters fall.

My spir - it pants for thee, O liv - ing Word!
And I shall find my peace, my all in all.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

David Viele

God of abundance, in your hands meager offerings become bread to feed a multitude. Your mercy overflows to fill deserted landscapes with hope and grace. In you there is always more than enough. But we see only scarcity: too few resources to share with our neighbors, too little energy to respond to those in need. We turn from those who suffer rather than offering compassion and care. Transform us, we pray. Open our hands to share freely and generously, and stretch our hearts to new expressions of love..... (silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

David Viele

Hear the good news! Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven. Amen.

RESPONSE TO FORGIVNESS (sung)
Be still, and know that I am God. (3 times)

Megan Hagle

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

David Viele

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word. Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 17:1-7

Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry;
give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.

² From you let my vindication come;
let your eyes see the right.

³ If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,
if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;
my mouth does not transgress.

⁴ As for what others do, by the word of your lips
I have avoided the ways of the violent.

⁵ My steps have held fast to your paths;
my feet have not slipped.

⁶ I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;
incline your ear to me, hear my words.

⁷ Wondrously show your steadfast love,
O savior of those who seek refuge
from their adversaries at your right hand.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You," by Jay Althouse

Megan Hagle

GOSPEL LESSON

Genesis 32:22-31

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

²² The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel,^[b] for you have striven with God and with humans, and have

prevailed.”²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him.³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.”³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

SERMON

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

HYMN

Amazing Grace (GTG #649)

Megan Higle

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16-17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it “Faith’s Review and Expectation.” Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

THANKSGIVING

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

INVITATION TO GIVE

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

(You may mail your offering into the office OR click this link: [Click Here for Online Giving](#))

DOXOLOGY (GTG #607)

Megan Higle

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
 Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
 Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
 Leader: ... who forever sing to the glory of your name

Sanctus

572 Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
 MUSIC: Thomas Pavlechko, 2006
 Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

SANCTUS (Pavlechko)

Leader: ... Let us proclaim together the mystery of faith:
People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Invocation of Holy Spirit

Lord's Prayer (**unison**)

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.

Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Responsive Prayer after the Supper

Leader: Holy Spirit, you have filled us with your life.

People: Christ our Savior, you have embraced us in your love.

Leader: God our Mother, you have fed us with your grace.

People: Now send us out into your beloved world to share your life, your love, your grace with all.

Leader: Blessing and honor and glory to you, holy, holy, holy Lord.

People: Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells. We believe that God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people. We believe that, in obedience to Jesus Christ, its only head, the church is called to confess and to do all these things, even though the authorities and human laws might forbid them and punishment and suffering be the consequence. (Excerpts from Confession of Belhar, *Book of Confessions*)

HYMN

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ (GTG #526)

Megan Higle

This "communion calypso" (as the author called it) affirms the continuing presence of Christ both in the sacramental meal and in the lives of Christians. Because this text was written to fit a pre-existing tune, it has a rather telegraphic style that encourages pondering.

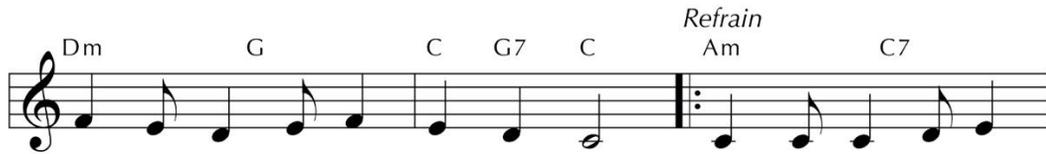
526 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one; at the ta - ble he
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a



shout of joy: bread is bro - ken; the wine is poured;
 sets the tone, teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,
 world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:



Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain;
 God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!



earth can breathe a - gain; pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

BENEDICTION

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

RESPONSE Blest Be the Tie That Binds (GTG #306, verse 1)
*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
 The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.*

Megan Hagle

POSTLUDE

Sergei Kvitko

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