

Order of Worship
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
9:30 am – September 5, 2021

Watching Live?
Text your prayer requests to 805-309-6867 before the end of the first hymn.

PRELUDE

Sheep May Safely Graze (J.S. Bach)
Miriam Arichea, piano

trans. Mary Howe

WELCOME

Pastors

HYMN

Gather Us In

TFWS 2236

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Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreaming, brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry; we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth;
here you shall call your sons and your daughters; call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away –
here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Liberating God, you call us to love and care without partiality, and to welcome the least and the last in our world as extravagantly as we welcome our friends. Inspire us with your love and grace to worship with open hearts, to welcome and include all, and to respond with your generous love in both word and deed. Amen.

(Rev. Dr. Mary Scifres, ©2021)

HYMN

Living for Jesus

TFWS 2149

CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / CCLI Song # 20687

Living for Jesus a life that is true, striving to please him in all that I do,
yielding allegiance glad-hearted and free, this is the pathway of blessing for me.

Refrain: O Jesus, Lord and Savior, I give myself to thee; for thou in thy atonement didst give thyself for me.
I own no other master, my heart shall be thy throne, my life I give, henceforth to live, O Christ, for thee alone.

Living for Jesus, who died in my place, bearing on Calvary my sin and disgrace,
such love constrains me to answer his call, follow his leading, and give him my all. ***(Refrain)***

Living for Jesus wherever I am, doing each duty in his holy name,
willing to suffer affliction or loss, deeming each trial a part of my cross. ***(Refrain)***

Living for Jesus through earth's little while, my dearest treasure, the light of his smile,
seeking the lost ones he died to redeem, bringing the weary to find rest in him. ***(Refrain)***

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Erin

SPECIAL MUSIC

English Suite in A minor—Sarabande
Terilyn Huang, piano

J.S. Bach

SCRIPTURE

James 2: 1-8; 14-18
The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Esther Benedict

MESSAGE

Faith by Works

Pastors

OFFERTORY PRAYER (unison)

Gracious and loving God, we offer these gifts and our lives as signs that our faith is expressed not in words alone, but in deeds performed in the name and for the sake of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.
(adapted from Moira Laidlaw, ©1992)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE (responsive)

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

(UM Book of Worship, The Methodist Publishing House, ©1972)

THANKSGIVING & COMMUNION (responsive)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us lift up our hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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.

... as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. **Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by His blood.**

... all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(UM Book of Worship, The Methodist Publishing House, ©1972)

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 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.

HYMN

Go Forth for God

UMH 670

CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / CCLI Song # 3205512

Go forth for God, go to the world in peace; be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace, in God's good Spirit daily to increase, till in the kingdom we see face to face. Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.

Go forth for God, go to the world in love; strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak; help the afflicted; richly from above God's love supplies the grace and power we seek. Go forth for God, go to the world in love.

Go forth for God, go to the world in strength; hold fast the good, be urgent for the right; render to no one evil; Christ at length shall overcome all darkness with His light. Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.

Go forth for God, go to the world in joy; to serve God's people every day and hour, and serving Christ, our every gift employ, rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power. Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.

BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

Pastoral from 8 Concert Studies
Miriam Arichea, piano

Nikolai Kapustin

Prayer Requests:

Pasadena: Holliston UMC— Pastor Young Chung
Moorpark UMC — Pastor Kathleen Puntar