

Order of Worship
TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
9:30 am – August 20, 2023

Participating Live?

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

PRELUDE

Improvisation on “Repton”
Kyle Hanks, organ

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Fran Turner, liturgist

We gather together, in some ways coming as strangers.

And yet we are your children God, so may we see in each other our brothers and sisters.

As families sometimes squabble, and sometimes, with your help find reconciliation,
may we be reconciled with one another and with our friends and family as we worship here today.

OPENING HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

UMH 140

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1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

2.

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **Refrain**

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **Refrain**

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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 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.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Spirit of Love
VFUMC Praise Team

by Amanda Udis-Kessler

Permission to livestream granted by Amanda Udis-Kessler and queersacredmusic.com.

Spirit of love, come fill me up. Flood me with love till my heart overflows.
Draw forth my joy, heal all my pain. Spirit of love fill me up.

Spirit of peace, come ease my soul. Wash me in peace till my heart knows relief.
Set me at rest, calm all my fears. Spirit of peace, ease my soul.

Spirit of hope, come lead me on. Bathe me in hope till my heart lives in faith.
Send me to serve, teach me to love. Spirit of hope, lead me on.

Spirit of hope, Spirit of peace, Spirit of love, lead me on.

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 45: 1-15 (NRSV)
The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Fran Turner, liturgist

CHILDREN'S MOMENT (Children and Youth come to the steps for a word from the pastor)

PREPARATION HYMN

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace TFWS 2171

Words and Music: Sebastian Temple. ©1967 OCP Publications. Song # 85582. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #734744-A. All rights reserved.

1. Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
2. Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy.
3. Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.
4. Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
In giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

MESSAGE

Pastor Diane Rehfield

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Make Us One

TFWS 2224

CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / CCLI Song #695737

Make us one, Lord, make us one; Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let your love flow so the world will know we are one in You.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Loving God, you have seen our needs and have come to us. We think now of others; and our minds and hearts reach out to them through this act of giving. There are so many who are hurting in this world. Some are right here in our community. Some are in distant lands. Since we are all a part of your family, we share what we have. We rejoice that we can participate in this act of sharing your love in Jesus' name. Amen

Herb Mather Ó 2002 General Board of Discipleship as reprinted in *Worship & Song*,
Worship Resources Edition, Ó2011 by Abingdon Press

SENDING HYMN

Help Us Accept Each Other

UMH 560

CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / CCLI Song #133756

1. Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us, and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.
2. Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them, or as they may become.
3. Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance, until we know by heart the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.
4. Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on; renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

As You Go On Your Way
VFUMC Praise Team

by Amanda Udis-Kessler

Permission to livestream granted by Amanda Uddis-Kessler and queersacredmusic.com.

And now, as you go on your way, take care. Take care. The love, all the love that you seek is there. It's there.
Love flows through our words and deeds. Love knows all the things we need.
Love grows as our hearts are freed from hatred, fear, and pain.
Take care as you go on your way until we meet again.

Prayer Requests

La Cañada UMC—Pastor Karin Ellis

Immanuel UMC of Los Angeles—Pastor Jay Kim

Frances Marshall—recovery from infection in arm

Nancy Sieh—recovering from Covid-19

Ross Matarazzo—hip replacement surgery on 8/21

All those suffering from illness or loss of loved ones.

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