

**Sunday, August 6, 2023**

**Order of Worship**

**Prelude**

***Christians, We Have Met to Worship***

**William Moore**

**Suk Choi, Organist**

**Welcome**

**Pastor Jim**

**Call to Worship**

**Pastor Jim**

Leader: We come together as seekers.

**People:** *That we might learn what God would have us do and where God would have us go.*

Leader: We come together to renew our faith.

**People:** *That we might bring hope to others.*

**All:** *To the God who is the source of goodness and love, let us sing our praise!*

**Opening Prayer**

**Pastor Jim**

Gracious and loving God, we rejoice in this day — a day you have made! Open our hearts that we might worship you with joyful abandon. Open our eyes so that we might revel in the glory of your creation. Open our mouths to sing your praises. Open our ears to hear your Word anew. Renew us and fill our entire beings with your Spirit. Amen.

**Hymns of Praise**  
(please stand if able)

**Open Up the Heavens**  
**Rozier, Macdonald, Ingram, Andrews, and Garrard**  
**Logan Altman, Worship Leader**  
**Christian Jacobson, Drums**

*We've waited for this day  
We're gathered in Your Name  
Calling out to You*

*Your glory like a fire awakening desire  
Will burn our hearts with truth*

*You're the reason we're here  
You're the reason we're singing*

*Open up the heavens we want to see You  
Open up the floodgates a mighty river  
Flowing from Your heart  
Filling every part of our praise*

*Your presence in this place  
Your glory on our face  
We're looking to the sky*

*Descending like a cloud  
You're standing with us now  
Lord unveil our eyes*

*You're the reason we're here  
You're the reason we're singing*

*Open up the heavens we want to see You  
Open up the floodgates a mighty river  
Flowing from Your heart  
Filling every part of our praise*

*Show us show us Your glory  
Show us show us Your power  
Show us show us Your glory Lord*

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Show us show us Your power  
Show us show us Your glory Lord*

*Show us show us Your glory  
Show us show us Your power  
Show us show us Your glory Lord*

*Open up the heavens we want to see You  
Open up the floodgates a mighty river  
Flowing from Your heart  
Filling every part of our praise*

*Open up the heavens we want to see You  
Open up the floodgates a mighty river  
Flowing from Your heart  
Filling every part of our praise*

*Our God*

**Tomlin, Reeves, Myrin, & Redman**

*Water You turned into wine  
Opened the eyes of the blind  
There's no one like You  
None like You*

*Into the darkness You shine  
Out of the ashes we rise  
There's no one like You  
None like You*

*Our God is greater  
Our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is healer  
Awesome in power our God our God*

*Into the darkness You shine  
Out of the ashes we rise  
There's no one like You  
None like You*

*Our God is greater  
Our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is healer  
Awesome in power our God our God*

*Our God is greater  
Our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is healer  
Awesome in power our God our God*

*And if our God is for us  
Then who could ever stop us  
And if our God is with us  
Then what could stand against*

*And if our God is for us  
Then who could ever stop us  
And if our God is with us  
Then what could stand against  
(Then) what could stand against*

*Our God is greater  
Our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is healer  
Awesome in power our God our God*

*And if our God is for us  
Then who could ever stop us  
And if our God is with us  
Then what could stand against*

*And if our God is for us  
Then who could ever stop us  
And if our God is with us  
Then what could stand against  
(Then) what could stand against*

## Invitation to the Prayer of Confession

Nancy LeBlanc

Sin afflicts us all. We know what it is like, as Paul described it, to do the very thing we don't want to do, and not be able to do the good that we desire to do. But we worship a God who is merciful, patient, and kind. Let us humbly and sincerely come before God for confession and repentance. Please join with me in our Prayer of Confession as printed in our Order of Worship. Let us pray.

## Prayer of Confession

Nancy LeBlanc

*Loving God, we suffer. We suffer from this nature of sin that corrupts even our best attempts to please you. We suffer from brokenness that plagues us with self-centeredness and fear. We inflict suffering on others by our thoughtless and judgmental attitudes. We suffer from discontentment, from comparisons to others, from the worship of false gods. We run after every new and empty promise -- promises of security, ease, meaning or intimacy -- but it is all in vain, for only in you will we find true rest and peace. Forgive us, Lord. Forgive our idolatry, our refusal to give up lordship of our lives, our forgetfulness of your grace and faithfulness. Continue to call us back, and we thank you for never giving up on us. Hear our prayers, O Lord, as we offer them from the silence of our hearts.*

Silent Prayer.

Amen.

## Declaration of Forgiveness

Nancy LeBlanc

Friends, there is no greater joy than to return home and run into the loving embrace of God. Go in peace, knowing that God forgives you. Amen.

## Response of Thanksgiving

(please stand if able)

*Gloria Patri*

Carol Stocksdale, Hymn Singer

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen. Amen.*

## Passing of the Joy & Peace of Christ

Pastor Jim

**Celebration of Baptism**

[Please stand if able.]

Veda Chappell  
The Apostles' Creed  
Pastor Jim  
Nancy LeBlanc, Clerk of Session

*I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.*

**Recognition of New Members**

Pastor Jim  
Nancy LeBlanc, Clerk of Session

**Time For Young Disciples**

Mark Imfeld

**Prayer Song**

*God is always near me,  
God will always hear me,  
When I pray.*

**First Lesson****Romans 12: 1 - 8**

Pastor Jim  
Pew Bible pp. 161-162

<sup>1</sup> I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. <sup>3</sup> For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup> We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup> ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

**Hymn of Preparation**  
(please stand if able)

***Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated***  
Frances R. Havergal  
Carol Stocksdale, Hymn Singer  
#568 (vv. 1, 2)

*Take my life and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
Take my hands and let them move  
At the impulse of thy love,  
At the impulse of thy love.*

*Take my feet and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for thee;  
Take my voice and let me sing  
Always, only, for my King,  
Always, only, for my King.*

**Second Lesson**

**Colossians 1: 9 - 14**

**Pastor Jim**  
**Pew Bible pp. 199 - 200**

<sup>9</sup> For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup> so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. <sup>11</sup> May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup> He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**Sermon**

**Our Vocation**

**Pastor Jim**

**Time of Reflection**

**Blessing of Tithes and Offerings**

**Pastor Jim**

## Offertory

*Lead Me to the Cross*

Ligertwood

Logan Altman, Solo

Saviour I come quiet my soul  
Remember redemption's hill  
Where Your blood was spilled  
For my ransom

Ev'rything I once held dear  
I count it all as loss

Lead me to the cross  
Where Your love poured out  
Bring me to my knees  
Lord I lay me down  
Rid me of myself  
I belong to You  
Oh lead me lead me to the cross

To Your heart  
To Your heart  
Lead me to Your heart  
Lead me to Your heart

Lead me to the cross  
Where Your love poured out  
Bring me to my knees  
Lord I lay me down  
Rid me of myself  
I belong to You  
Oh lead me lead me to the cross

## Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Pastor Jim

*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*

**Hymn of Response**  
(please stand if able)

***God of Grace and God of Glory***  
Harry E. Fosdick  
Carol Stocksdale, Hymn Singer  
#669 (vv. 1, 2)

*God of grace and God of glory,  
On your people pour your power;  
Crown your ancient Church's story,  
Bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
For the facing of this hour,  
For the facing of this hour.*

*Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
Scorn your Christ, assail his ways!  
Fears and doubts too long have bound us—  
Free our hearts to work and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
For the living of these days,  
For the living of these days.*

**Charge and Benediction**  
(please remain standing if able)

**Pastor Jim**

**Choral Response**

***Prayer for the Road***  
Carol Stocksdale, Hymn Singer

*May we be blessed as we go on our way.  
May we be kept in safety and love.  
May grace and compassion find their way to every soul,  
May this be our blessing, Amen.  
Amen, Amen.  
May this be our blessing, Amen  
Amen, Amen.  
May this be our blessing, Amen.*

**Postlude**

***I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me***  
***African - American Spiritual***  
**Suk Choi, Organist**

Today's Chancel flowers are given by Carl Knutson  
in honor of his father's birthday.

\*\*\*Music used by permission CCLI 504316\*\*\*