14th Sunday after Pentecost September 3, 2023

Gathering God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (Time for Silent Preparation)

Call to Worship (Responsively)

Hob Pusey

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

Invocation (Responsively)

Hob Pusey

You, O God, are mighty forever. You cause the wind to blow and the rain to fall. You sustain the living, give life to the dead, support the falling, loose those who are bound, and keep your faith with those who sleep in the dust. Who is like you, O God of mighty acts? Praise be to you forever. **Amen.**

Praise Song

Before the Throne of God Above

Verse 1
Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

Chorus Hallelujah My life is found in Jesus Christ Hallelujah For I am His and He is mine

Verse 2

When Satan tempts me to despair And tells me of the guilt within Upward I look and see Him there Who made an end to all my sin Because the sinless Saviour died My sinful soul is counted free For God the Just is satisfied To look on Him and pardon me To look on Him and pardon me Chorus

Verse 3

Behold Him there the risen Lamb My perfect spotless righteousness The great unchangeable I Am The King of glory and of grace One with Himself I cannot die My soul is purchased with His blood My life is hid with Christ on high With Christ my Saviour and my God With Christ my Saviour and my God Chorus

Verse 4

I bow before the cross of Christ
And marvel at this love divine
God's perfect Son was sacrificed
To make me righteous in God's eyes
This river's depths I cannot know
But I can glory in its flood
The Lord Most High has bowed down low
And poured on me His glorious love
And poured on me His glorious love
Chorus

Confessing God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession (Responsively)

Hob Pusey

When humans deface God's image, The whole world suffers: We abuse the creation or idolize it.
We are estranged from our Creator, from our neighbor, from our true selves, and from all that God has made.
Therefore let us confess our sins.

Prayer of Confession (Responsively)

Hob Pusey

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Hob Pusey

Can a woman forget her nursing child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb? As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you, says the Lord.

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Gloria Patri

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. A-men, A-men.

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's

mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God— this is your true and proper

worship.

Offering

Offertory I'll Fly Away by Brumley

Sandy Dulaney, Mike Lenz

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.

Prayer of Dedication (Responsively)

Ever-giving God, source of all goodness and charity, your ear is always open to our needs.

When we cry to you, you are faithful and provide for us.

With joy we bring our thanksgiving.

For all your mercies, we return to you from our abundance.

All that we give, we dedicate to your glory.

All that we keep, we commit to your care, for we are only stewards of your bounty.

Bless what we give and what we keep, for all is your creation. Amen.

y Hymn 25

Immortal, Invisible

Proclaiming God speaks to us through His Word

Children's Sermon Tower of Babel Dennis Lesher

Scripture Reading Genesis 11:1-9

11 The whole earth had the same language and vocabulary. ² As people migrated from the east, they found a valley in the land of Shinar and settled there. ³ They said to each other, "Come, let's make oven-fired bricks." (They used brick for stone and asphalt for mortar.) ⁴ And they said, "Come, let's build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the sky. Let's make a name for ourselves; otherwise, we will be scattered throughout the earth."

⁵ Then the LORD came down to look over the city and the tower that the humans were building. ⁶ The LORD said, "If they have begun to do this as one people all having the same language, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. ⁷ Come, let's go down there and confuse their language so that they will not understand one another's speech." ⁸ So from there the LORD scattered them throughout the earth, and they stopped building the city. ⁹ Therefore it is called Babylon, for there the LORD confused the language of the whole earth, and from there the LORD scattered them throughout the earth.

Sermon "The Tower of Babel"

Rev. Tim Latham

Praise Song Jesus, I Come

Verse 1
Out of my bondage sorrow and night
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into Thy freedom gladness and light
Jesus I come to Thee
Out of my sickness into Thy health
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth
Out of my sin and into Thyself
Jesus I come to Thee

Verse 2

Out of my shameful failure and loss Jesus I come Jesus I come Into the glorious gain of Thy cross Jesus I come to Thee Out of earths sorrows into Thy balm Out of lifes storms and into Thy calm Out of distress into jubilant psalm Jesus I come to Thee

Verse 3

Out of unrest and arrogant pride
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into Thy blessed will to abide
Jesus I come to Thee
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love
Out of despair into raptures above
Upward forever on wings like a dove
Jesus I come to Thee

Verse 4

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb Jesus I come Jesus I come Into the joy and light of Thy home Jesus I come to Thee Out of the depths of ruin untold Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold Ever Thy glorious face to behold Jesus I come to Thee

Sacrament of Communion

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 Him thanks and praise!

Invitation to the Table

Leader: For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you

proclaim the Lord's death until He comes Again!

People: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come

again!

Responding We respond to God's Word

Profession of Faith (Apostle's Creed)

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 Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died, and buried; The third day he rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth at 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 Spirit, The holy catholic church, The communion of saints, The forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body, And the life everlasting. Amen.

<u>Commissioning</u> God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

Hymn 275 How Firm A Foundation

Benediction & Blessing

Postlude

Today's prayer partners are Carolyn Thompson and Don Titus