17th Sunday after Pentecost September 15, 2024

Gathering God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (Time for Silent Preparation)

Y Call to Worship (Responsively)

Hob Pusey

When Moses gathered the people of Israel, God said, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."

As we gather here today, let us worship the Lord, who continues to be our God and who still brings us out of the places of our bondage.

—based on Exodus 20:1-2

Invocation (Responsively)

Hob Pusey

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts; eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil; eternal Power, be our support; eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance; eternal Love, have mercy upon us, that with all our heart and mind and strength we may seek your face and be brought by your infinite mercy to your holy presence through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Opening Song O Love that Will Not Let Me Go

O love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, That in thine ocean depths in flow may richer, fuller be.

O light that follow'st all my way, I yield my flick'ring torch to thee; My heart restores its borrowed ray, That in thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be. O joy that seekest me through pain, I can not close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, And feel the promise is not vain, That morn shall tearless be.

O cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee; I lay in dust life's glory dead, And from the ground there blossoms red life that shall endless be.

Confessing God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Hob Pusey

The proof of God's amazing love is this:

While we were sinners, Christ died for us. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

-based on Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16, NRSV

Prayer of Confession (Responsively)

Hob Pusey

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities. -Psalm 130, NRSV

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Hob Pusey

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world

to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." –John 3:16-17, NRSV

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

Day

Invitation Remember the words the Lord Jesus himself said:

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."

-from Acts 20:35, NIV

Offering

Offertory Peace in Christ

Robin Miller

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

We are not our own; we belong to you. You have created us and given us life anew, O God, our Creator, Savior, and Sustainer.

We extend our arms and open our hands to present our offerings to you. We make these gestures to display outwardly our hearts' overflowing gratitude for all your gifts.

Receive these gifts from us, O Triune God, and through them bring life and hope to many. In the name of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You

All: And also with you

Preparation Song

The Blessing

Verse (2 times)
The Lord bless you and keep you,
make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.

Chorus (2 times)
Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.

Bridge

May His favor be upon you and a thousand generations and your fam'ly and your children and their children.

May His presence go before you and behind you and beside you, All around you and within you. He is with you, hi is with you.

In the morning, in the evening, in your coming and your going, In your weeping and rejoicing, He is for you, He is with you.

Verse Chorus

<u>Proclaiming</u> God speaks to us through His Word

Scripture Reading

Philippians 1:3-11

³ I give thanks to my God for every remembrance of you, ⁴ always praying with joy for all of you in my every prayer, ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am sure of this, that he who started a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷ Indeed, it is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I have you in my heart, and you are all partners with me in grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how deeply I miss all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And I pray this: that your love will keep on growing in knowledge and every kind of discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve the things that are superior and may be pure and blameless in the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ to the glory and praise of God.

Sermon "A Good Work and a Growing Love" Rev. Tim Latham

Hymn of Response 92

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Responding We respond to God's Word

Profession of Faith (In Unison)

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. -from Colossians 1:15-20, NRSV

Prayers of the People

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

Commission Hymn 587 All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord

Benediction & Blessing

Postlude