



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 2021
10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Pastorale

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TOLLING OF THE STEEPLE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 18)

ONE: I love you, O LORD, my strength.

ALL: The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer.

ONE: The Lord is my God, my rock in whom I take refuge,

ALL: The Lord is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

ONE: I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised. So I shall be saved from my enemies.

ALL: The LORD lives! Blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation.

HYMN #750

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;

light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death.

Vic-tory is ours; vic-tory is ours through God who loves us. us.

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OPENING ACCLAMATION

One: Come, Holy Spirit! Come!

All: Come into our hearts today!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O God of shalom, we have built up walls to protect ourselves from our enemies, but those walls also shut us off from receiving your love. Break down those walls.

Help us to see that the way to your heart is through the reconciliation of our own hearts with our enemies. Bless them and us, that we may come to grow in love for each other and for you, through Jesus Christ.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

ONE: God reaches out to us again and again, that we might turn from what is destructive and turn toward what is life giving.

ALL: God reaches out to us again and again with forgiveness, love and compassion: a chance to start anew.

ONE: Hear the good news: From this day to the end of eternity, we are the children of God.

ALL: We are loved and forgiven. Hallelujah. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF GRACE

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!
 Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! _____

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CHILDREN’S TIME

The Blessing of the Backpacks

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE LESSON – Romans 12:18 - 21

Response after reading

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL READING – Matthew 5:43-48

Response after reading

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Andante from Concerto nach Italienischen Gusto, BWV 971

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

PSALTER – Psalm 5

Response after reading

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People: Thanks be to God!

PSALM RESPONSE “Give Ear To Our Words, O Lord”

Give ear to our words, O Lord: give heed to our sigh - ing cries. Please
hear us, O God, to you do we pray. Each morn-ing we plead to you.

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SERMON

“Friend or Foe?”

Rev. Dr. Merideth Mueller Bolton

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

Treüer Gott ich mus dir Klag.

Christian Flor (1626-1697)

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & THE 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 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 #753

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

1. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where there is ha-tred, let me bring your
 2. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where there's de-spair in life, let me bring
 4. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. It is in par-don - ing that we are

love. Where there is in - ju - ry, your par-don, Lord, and
 hope. Where there is dark-ness, on - ly light, and
 par-doned, in giv - ing of our - selves that we re - ceive, and in

1. 2. 4. (Fine)
 where there's doubt, true faith in you. 3.O, Mas - ter, grant that
 where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.
 dy - ing that we're born.to.e-ternal life.

I may nev - er seek so much to be con - soled as to con - sole, to be

un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be

loved as to love with all my soul. to Stanza 4

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures here be - low;
 Praise God a - bove ye heav'n-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

LITANY OF PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us greet one another in the name of Christ.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE Surely the Presence of the Lord is In This Place

Sure - ly the pres-ence of the Lord is in this place, I can feel His might-y
pow - er and His grace; - I can hear the brush of an-gels' wings, I see
glo - ry on each face, Sure-ly the pres-ence of the Lord is in this place.

POSTLUDE

Toccata

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621)

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LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Merideth Mueller Bolton
Reader: Bill Dettelback
Director of Music: Benjamin Berman
Director of Christian Education: Courtney Rzeplinski
Pastor: The Rev. Linda E. Owens
Tech Crew: TBA

TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

To whom much is given, much will be required ... Luke 12:48

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