

MORNING WORSHIP

May 9, 2021

Half past Ten O'Clock

Sixth Sunday of Easter GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

TIME OF MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

WELCOME AND NOTICES

INTROIT

Morning Joy Linda Scholes
Selwyn Handbell Ensemble: Nancy Bobbit, Lee Bobbit, Joy Vickers, Dick Metzler

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalms 117 and 118

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made!

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol the Lord, all you peoples!

People: The Lord's steadfast love is great.

Leader: The faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

All: Praise the Lord!

*HYMN

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

FAITHFULNESS

**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.**

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!**

**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

**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

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

adapted from Jan L. Richardson

Leader: Even when we were dead, Paul writes.

People: Even when we turned away from the One who had created us.

Leader: Even when we lived in the grip of what drew our gaze from God.

People: Even when we were oblivious.

Leader: Even when we followed a path fashioned of nothing but our own desires.

People: Even when we wandered far and willfully away.

Leader: Even when we forgot to look past our own feet and to see the wonders not of our making.

Even when we failed to stand in awe, to breathe thanks, to lean into the love that had waited long for us. (silent prayers)

Leader: Even when, Paul writes.

People: Even when,

Leader: even then:

All: grace.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Ephesians 2:4-5a

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which God loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR EVA MURPHY TOM

Christy Parbst, Assisting Elder

+Invitation to Baptism

The Meaning of Baptism

Questions to the Candidate and to the Congregation

*Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal, p. 14

Prayer and the Act of Baptism

Greeting a Child of God

Leader: Eva Murphy Tom is now identified as a child of God in Christ's Church. Through Baptism, God has put His seal upon Evie to share with us all the benefits of Christ's sacrifice. Let us be supportive of her to be a faithful disciple.

People: With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Evie into Christ's Church, for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage and support you, to share the good news of God's love with you, and to celebrate with you God's unfolding blessings.

*SUNG RESPONSE

"Though I May Speak"

O WALY WALY

**Though I may speak with bravest fire, And have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain; As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.**

**Though I may give all I possess, And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within, The profit soon turns strangely thin.**

**Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; By this we worship and are freed.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 16:1-16

SERMON

"Junia, Prisca, Phoebe, and Rufus' Mom"

Lori Archer Raible

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

RECOGNITION OF 2021 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

Text to Give

704-734-9818

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Solid Rock
Selwyn Handbell Ensemble

arr. Joel Raney

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*LITANY OF DEDICATION (Unison)

God of Grace, nothing can separate us from Your love. United we stand ready to care for those who face troubles, hardships, persecution, hunger, poverty, danger and even death. May our offerings of time, treasure and talent glorify Your name, as we share the Good News of Your love and grace in Christ, our Lord. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

CLOSING HYMN

“Now Thank We All Our God”

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

**Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, In whom this world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms, Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, And still is ours today.**

**O may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in God's grace, And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills In this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God, Who reigns in highest heaven,
To Father and to Son And Spirit now be given.
The one eternal God, Whom heaven and earth adore,
The God who was, and is, And shall be evermore.**

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

For those worshipping in the Sanctuary, please be seated after the Benediction until after the Postlude ends. Then, take caution to maintain social distance as you exit the Narthex.

*Those who are able please stand.