

FPC Interactive Worship Bulletin for October 10, 2021

GATHERING

Prelude

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." John 6:51

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Call on the name of God and give thanks.

All: Make known God's deeds among the people.

One: Sing and tell of God's wonderful works!

All: Let those who seek God rejoice in their hearts.

One: Let us worship God.

Gathering Song: Come Thou Fount

Come Thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy praise.
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above!
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, here by Thy great help I've come.
And I hope by Thy good pleasure safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God.
He to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be.
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it. Prone to leave the God I love!
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

Robert Robinson**

PRAISING

Prayer of Adoration

We gather today, O Lord of Life, seeking fullness.
Not the fullness our world offers,
but fullness that comes from You.
We spend so much of our lives on things that do not count—
things that promise much and give little.
Help us now—today—to find fulfillment in Your love.
May we discover all You have to give,
and seek You while we yet have the gift of days.
Lift us O God, to a higher plane of living,
as we lift our hearts and minds and souls into Your Holy presence.
Amen.

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise my soul, the King of heaven, to His feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who like me His praise should sing?
Hallelujah, hallelujah, praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor, to His people in distress,
Praise Him still the same forever, slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, praise Him for His faithfulness.

Father-like, He tends and spares us, well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hands He gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him! Widely as His mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him, ye behold Him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before Him; dwellers all in time and space,
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him! Praise with us the God of grace.

Words by Henry Francis Lyte; Arr. Philip Percival, Liv Chapman**

Oh Give Thanks! (Psalm 107)

We were wandering in the desert with our souls so starved and weak,
We were hungry for a homeland we did not know how to seek.
But we lifted up our voices to the only One who hears,
And the God of mercy came and brought us near.

We were locked out of the garden, and our backs bent down with pain.
In the shadow of death's darkness we were slaves to sin and blame.
And we cried out in our labor to the only One who hears,
And the God of mercy wiped away our tears.

*Refrain: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for His love endures forever!
We were wandering and lost, and our Father brought us home
To a safe dwelling place, to a feast of joy and laughter.
Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!*

We were fools in our rebellion, with our hunger strike of pride
We were sick and growing closer to the death we should have died.
Then He heard of our condition, and He called us by our names
And the God of glory took away our shame! *Refrain*

We were far out on the ocean, making wealth and chasing dreams;
But the waves of great destruction brought us trembling to our knees.
Then we cried like drunken sailors to the only One who hears,
And the God of comfort took away our tears. *Refrain*

Wendell Kimbrough**

BELONGING

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Forgiveness

We continue to believe that we have to earn our way into God's heart. But God's grace is given to each of us, for all of us, freely, unconditionally, always. Let us open our lives to this mercy as we come before God in confession.

Holy and merciful God, in Your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against You. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are sorry for all we have done to displease You. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in Your light and walk in Your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

This is the good news: God graces everyone with the same gifts: mercy, restoration, new life. God has kept the covenant, and we have been forgiven and made new people. Thanks be to God!

Song: My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is His Name.
In pastures fresh, He makes me feed beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake His ways,
And leads me, for His mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death, Thy presence is my stay.
A word of Thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread.
My cup with blessings overflows, Thine oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may Thy house be my abode, and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
No more a stranger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.

Virgil Thomson**

FORMING

Kids on the Steps

Sermon: Dan Cravy

Song of Response: All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: All who hun - ger, ga - ther glad - ly; ho - ly
All who hun - ger, ne - ver stran - gers; see - ker,
All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er; Je - sus
man-na is our bread. Come from wil - der-ness and
be a wel - come guest. Come from rest - lessness and
Christ is liv - ing bread. Come from lone - li-ness and
wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed. You that
roam - ing. Here in joy, we keep the feast. We that
long - ing. Here, in peace, we have been led. Blest are
yearn for days of full-ness, all a - round us is our
once were lost and scat-tered in com - mun-ion's love have
those who from this ta - ble live their days in gra - ti -
food. Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal; taste and
stood.
tude.
see that God is good.

Words by Sylvia G. Dunstan; music by Benjamin Brody.
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STEWARDING

Invitation to Offering

Our God is a God who surprises us in the wilderness with more than enough bread for the journey. We so often complain about what we lack. But God chooses to bless. To provide. To push the puzzle pieces within reach. To satisfy us with good.

And so we who are blessed by generosity respond with self-giving. What gifts is the Lord calling you to offer? What commitments is the Lord calling you to deepen? With what of yourself is the Lord asking you to trust him? Listen to the Lord and respond even now in this time set aside for offering.

FPC Bell Choir: O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

Arr. Judy Phillips***

Prayers of the People

Let us pray together, hearing the words “in Your mercy,”
and responding with, “hear our prayer.”

God, like the Israelites in the wilderness,
we too have known Your love,
and experienced Your care and provision.
You call us to extend Your love to the world around us—
to care for others as deeply as we care for ourselves.
And so we bring the needs of our world before You now.
In Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who do not have what they need in order to survive;
those without enough food to eat,
or shelter to keep them warm;
those without employment,
those without access to medical care.
Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have more than enough to meet their needs,
but who continue to feel empty inside;
who struggle to find meaning and purpose in life,
Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are struggling physically,
who are battling life-threatening disease or injury,
who are living with chronic pain,
who are facing death.
Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

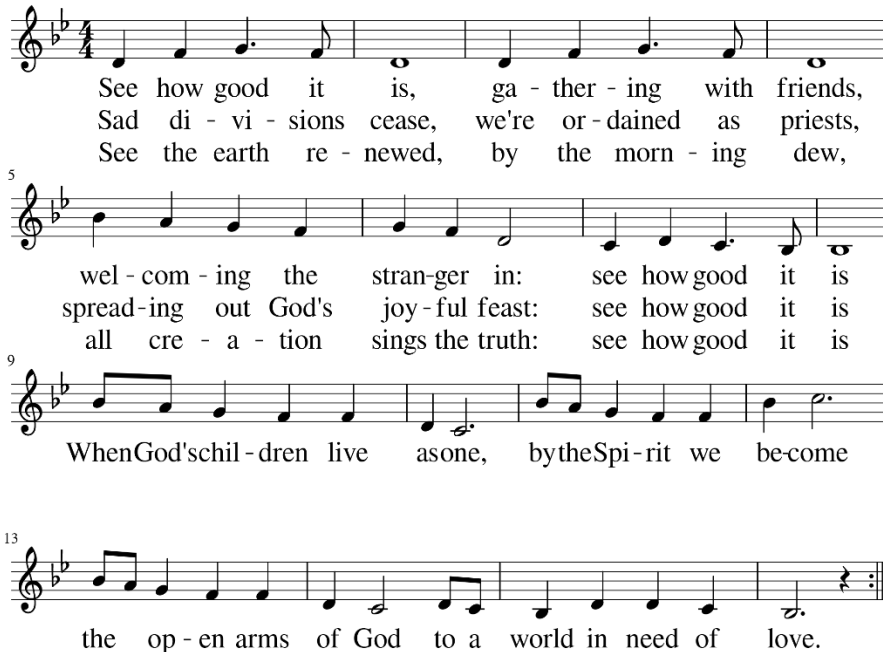
God of the first and the last,
and all those in between,
Your grace reaches out to all of us—
life-long believers or newcomers alike.
You call us to live as citizens of heaven,
to work together with one mind and one purpose,
to reach out in love to those in need.
Strengthen us so that we might live in a manner worthy
of the Good News we have received,
offering our lives to the building up of Your upside-down kingdom,
where the last are first, and the first are last,
and there is grace enough for all.
Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who taught us to pray with these words:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Your kingdom come, Your 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.

SENDING

Sending Song: See How Good It Is – Psalm 133



See how good it is, ga - ther - ing with friends,
Sad di - vi - sions cease, we're or - dained as priests,
See the earth re - newed, by the morn - ing dew,
wel - com - ing the stran - ger in: see how good it is
spread - ing out God's joy - ful feast: see how good it is
all cre - a - tion sings the truth: see how good it is
When God's chil - dren live as one, by the Spi - rit we be - come
the op - en arms of God to a world in need of love.

Sandra McCracken and Wendell Kimbrough**

Benediction

Now may the **grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ, the **love** of God, and the **communion** of the Holy Spirit be yours.

And may the **peace** of Christ, that passes all understanding, guard your hearts and minds as you choose to trust him to satisfy you with good as you find your true freedom within his liberating limits!

Amen.

Liturgist: Hailey Chabotte | Musicians: Austin Graef, Emma Thackston, Joselyn Thomsen, Kalani Padilla, Noah Hill
Bell Choir Director: Tomi Kent | Slide, Sound and Video Techs: Pat Scott, Gary Jones and Katherine Kahl
Pastor: Dan Cravy | Resident Worship Director: Emma Thackston | Children, Youth and Family Director: Austin Graef | Parish Associates Rev. Janet Malone and Bob Schurr

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