



Sunday Worship
July 4, 2021
Let brotherly love continue

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lift your eyes to God:

in the highest heavens, we see your glory, Great Creator.

Reach out your hands to Jesus:

in the compassion of an enemy, we know your love, O Christ.

Feel the breath of the Spirit:

in our sinews and in our souls, the Spirit whispers hope.

Let us worship the God who reigns,

by entering the depths of our humanity

and setting the humble soaring on the wings of the Spirit

for the sake of eternity.

OPENING PRAYER

We give you thanks for all the ways that you bless our lives O God: the beauty and abundance of nature, the love of family and friends, the joy of knowing you and hearing your word. Send Your Spirit during this time of worship so that we might dream your dreams and see visions of the world as you created it to be. Guide our thoughts and actions. Bring us closer to you so that we might do your will and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

HYMN #377 I Want to Walk as a child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus. (Refrain)

2 I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,

and show me the way to the Father. (Refrain)

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,

we shall know the joy of Jesus. (Refrain)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One of Nazareth, we see you calm storms, heal illness, even restore life, yet we still struggle to trust you. You send us out, but we want to stay home. You provide partners for the journey, but we want to go it alone. You give us authority over evil, but we don't know how to use it. You say we need only the clothes on our back and a staff in our hand, but we pile the car full of food, clothes, tools and toys. We make sure our phones are charged and our GPS is on. You tell us to accept hospitality, but we don't like to put people out. You say that if people are unkind, we should simply shake the dust off of our feet, but we would rather get mad tell the whole world about it. We have much to learn from you, Jesus, about traveling gracefully through this life. Forgive our failings and grant us a deeper trust.

WORDS OF BLESSING AND ASSURANCE

*Hear these words from Christ: "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So go forth in the power of the almighty, who forgives you and loves you. Let the water of baptism remind us of the good news that **Jesus died for me. Jesus forgives me. Jesus loves me. Jesus is good to me. Amen.***

**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. Amen. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 123

To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, until he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt.

Our soul has had more than its fill of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

HYMN # 69

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,

I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin

my hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night,

I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them?

Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord.

Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,

I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them.

They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone,

give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?
(Refrain)

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?
(Refrain)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Mark 6:1-13

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary^[a] and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense^[b] at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

SERMON "Homecoming"

STATEMENT OF FAITH The 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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again 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 Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, we thank you for our present abundance and for the many blessings you have bestowed upon this community. We thank you for our faith, for our knowledge of you, and for the assurance of your love. May all these gifts be a blessing to those in need. Amen.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND 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 #463 How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3 "When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

4 "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

5 "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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* indicates where the congregation is to stand if able
italic type is spoken by the liturgist – bold is spoken by the congregation



ANNOUNCEMENTS: July 4, 2021

WEDNESDAY NOONTIME LUNCH CONTINUES THROUGH THE SUMMER

Bring your lunch, a lawn chair and your good company as we share fellowship together at noon.

CELEBRATION OF CAMPING MINISTRY AT KIRKWOOD

For a variety of reasons, Kirkwood has been closed. We want to honor its impact by holding a Kirkwood celebration on **July 24th at 6:00pm at the Ruth farm**. We will have a picnic with hotdogs and sides as well as toast marshmallows for s'mores. There will be games and a sing-a-long. Bring a lawn chair and your favorite camping memories! Please call the church office to sign up or stop by the church.

MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPLORERS July 12 – 16, 2021 Monday – Friday, 9:00-3:00, kids in grades 6-10 are invited to participate in a weeklong series of adventures. Registration numbers are restricted to 10. Friends are welcome. Sign up by calling the church office. Contact Pastor Su if you have any questions.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – July 19 – 23 2021, 9AM – noon. Check our Website www.forestgrovechurch.org for more information and/or go to vbspro.events/p/dp9219 to sign up. Share the information with your friends or family with children. You do not need to be a member of FGPC to attend VBS. Or call the Church office at 215-794-8575. Call Kim King 215-340-0530 or Beth Conti 267-491-5646 to volunteer.

Calendar:

July 5 – Office closed in observance of July 4th.

July 6 – Session Meeting: 7:00

July 7 – 11AM – Garden Club – Fellowship Hall.

12PM – Noontime lunch outside – bring your lunch and chair.

July 8 – Ella Adams Memorial Service, Reception following

July 11–10AM- Sunday services in church and on Zoom.

<https://zoom.us/j/127591875> Meeting ID: 127 591 875 or by phone:

301-715-8592 or 253-215-8782 Followed with refreshments on the Front Porch.

In our thoughts and prayers: The Conner/Lang Family, Diane Dauer, Aleena Lang, Natalie Pizza, Bill Wark, Raymond Tinari, Dick Wright, Gail Shaffer, Phyllis Scarpill