

LENT 1 SUNDAY

February 21, 2021

Organ Prelude: Solemn Improvisation

Bruce Nasmith

Welcome, Announcements & Worship Theme

CALL TO WORSHIP:

“As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourself with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female (there is no longer straight or gay); for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.”
(Galatians 3: 26-28, with addition)

We who gather for worship live in a world where people are measured in their value and worth, their social standing and leadership potential, based on the colour of their skin, their religion and culture, their money and prestige, their sexuality and gender.

We gather to be bathed and clothed again into Christ, to receive from him grace upon grace, to be refreshed and renewed in divine love, inspired and empowered with fresh faith and hope in the possibility of greater justice in the world.

We gather to be cleansed of the ways we are conditioned to evaluate and calculate the worth and value of persons in society by all the false standards we are taught from childhood onwards.

ALL: Let us worship God, together!

Hymn: “God is love”

No. 314

soloist Chris Tanaka-Mann with organist Bruce Nasmith

1. God is Love: let heav'n adoring;
God is Love: come earth, rejoice.
Come creation, voices soaring,
sing exulting with one voice.
God who laid the earth's foundation,
God who spread the heav'ns above,
God who breathes through all creation,
God is Love, eternal love.

2. God is love; whose arms enfolding
all the world in one embrace;
with unfailing grasp are holding
every child of every race,
and when human hearts are breaking
under sorrow's iron rod,
all the sorrow, all the aching
wings with pain the heart of God.

3. God is Love, and though with blindness
sin afflicts all human life,
God's eternal loving-kindness
guides us through all earthly strife.

Sin and death and hell shall never
o'er us final triumph gain;
God is Love: so love forever
o'er the universe must reign.

Prayer of Approach, Confession & 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Peace of Christ be with you all;
And also with you.

Children's Theme for Church School

Special Music: "Armour Heights"

Jim Nasmith

soloists Jim & Joanne Nasmith

Scripture Readings: Galatians 3:26-28; 1 Corinthians 14:26-40; 1 Timothy 2:8-3:5

Galatians 3:26-28

²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. Amen.

1 Corinthians 14:26-40

²⁶ What should be done then, my friends? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up. ²⁷If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn; and let one interpret. ²⁸But if there is no one to interpret, let them be silent in church and speak to themselves and to God. ²⁹Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. ³⁰If a revelation is made to someone else sitting nearby, let the first person be silent. ³¹For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged. ³²And the spirits of prophets are subject to the prophets, ³³for God is a God not of disorder but of peace.

(As in all the churches of the saints, ³⁴women should be silent in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak, but should be subordinate, as the law also says. ³⁵If there is anything they desire to know, let them ask their husbands at home. For it is shameful for a woman to speak in church. ³⁶Or did the word of God originate with you? Or are you the only ones it has reached?)

³⁷ Anyone who claims to be a prophet, or to have spiritual powers, must acknowledge that what I am writing to you is a command of the Lord. ³⁸ Anyone who does not recognize this is not to be recognized. ³⁹ So, my friends, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues; ⁴⁰ but all things should be done decently and in order.

1 Timothy 2:8-3:5

⁸ I desire, then, that in every place the men should pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or argument; ⁹ **also that the women should dress themselves modestly and decently in suitable clothing, not with their hair braided, or with gold, pearls, or expensive clothes, ¹⁰ but with good works, as is proper for women who profess reverence for God. ¹¹ Let a woman learn in silence with full submission. ¹² I permit no woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she is to keep silent. ¹³ For Adam was formed first, then Eve; ¹⁴ and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. ¹⁵ Yet she will be saved through childbearing, provided they continue in faith and love and holiness, with modesty.**

³ The saying is sure: whoever aspires to the office of bishop desires a noble task. ² Now a bishop must be above reproach, married only once, temperate, sensible, respectable, hospitable, an apt teacher, ³ not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, and not a lover of money. ⁴ He must manage his own household well, keeping his children submissive and respectful in every way— ⁵ for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how can he take care of God's church?

We are listening, O God;
Speak to us!

Sermon:

PAUL THE FEMINIST, PART 2

Dr. Harris

Special Music: "Open our eyes, Lord" & "Open my eyes, that I may see"

soloists Elias Theocharidis and Bruce Nasmith

Bob Cull &
Clara H. Scott

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Pastoral Concern

Hymn: "A prophet-woman broke a jar"

No. 588

soloist Erin Stone and pianist Bruce Nasmith

1. A prophet-woman broke a jar,
by Love's divine appointing.
With rare perfume she filled the room,
presiding and anointing.
A prophet-woman broke a jar,
the sneers of scorn defying.
With rare perfume she filled the room,
preparing Christ for dying.

3. Though woman wisdom, woman truth,
for centuries were hidden,
unsung, unwritten and unheard,
derided and forbidden,
the Spirit's breath, the Spirit's fire,
on free and slave descending,
can tumble our dividing walls,
our shame and sadness mending.

2. A faithful woman left a tomb
by Love's divine commission.
She saw, she heard,
she preached the Word,
arising from submission.
A faithful woman left a tomb,
with resurrection gospel;
she saw, she heard,
she preached the Word,
apostle to apostles.

4. The Spirit knows, the Spirit calls,
by Love's divine ordaining,
the friends we need, to serve and lead,
their powers and gifts unchaining.
The Spirit knows, the Spirit calls,
from women, men and children,
the friends we need, to serve and lead.
Rejoice and make them welcome!

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Organ Postlude: Fugue in C minor

Bruce Nasmith



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