

PENTECOST 11 SUNDAY

August 8, 2021

Guitar Prelude: How Great Thou Art

arr. by Bruce Nasmith

Welcome, Announcements & Worship Theme

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Psalmist talks of longing to be in God's dwelling place and says "My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God"

We come this morning to you O God, knowing that your dwelling place is everywhere, it is wherever we are, and that we can worship you alone or in a crowd, in church or at home, in the woods or beside the lake.

Here we are, believing that your presence surrounds us and your love sustains us as we join in spirit with your whole community of faith.

Let us worship God together.

Hymn: Joyful, joyful, we adore you

No. 410

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore you,
God of glory, Lord of love.
Hearts unfold like flowers before you,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

2. All your works with joy surround you;
earth and heaven reflect your rays;
stars and angels sing around you,
centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
join to praise you joyfully.

3. You are giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blessed,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest.
God Creator, Christ our Saviour,
all are yours who live in love.
Teach us how to love our neighbour;
lift us to your joy above.

4. Morning stars, awake the chorus;
mortals, join with every part,
for what joy is set before us
as Christ's love joins heart to heart!
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward
in the triumph song of life.

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.

Special Music: "On wings of faith"

Mendelssohn

Soloist Anna Bateman

Scripture Readings: Psalm 84, Philippians 4:4-7

Psalm 84

¹ How lovely is your dwelling place,

O LORD of hosts!

² My soul longs, indeed it faints

for the courts of the LORD;

my heart and my flesh sing for joy

to the living God.

³ Even the sparrow finds a home,

and the swallow a nest for herself,

where she may lay her young,

at your altars, O LORD of hosts,

my King and my God.

⁴ Happy are those who live in your house,

ever singing your praise.

Selah

⁵ Happy are those whose strength is in you,

in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

⁶ As they go through the valley of Baca

they make it a place of springs;

the early rain also covers it with pools.

⁷ They go from strength to strength;

the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

⁸ O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob!

Selah

⁹ Behold our shield, O God;
look on the face of your anointed.

¹⁰ For a day in your courts is better
than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than live in the tents of wickedness.

¹¹ For the LORD God is a sun and shield;
he bestows favour and honour.

No good thing does the LORD withhold
from those who walk uprightly.

¹² O LORD of hosts,
happy is everyone who trusts in you.

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

We are listening, O God;
Speak to us!

Sermon:

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

Rev. Dr. Carol Loudon

Special Music: "If with all your heart you truly seek him"

Mendelssohn

Soloist Elias Theocharidis

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Pastoral Concern

Hymn: The love of God comes close

No. 474

1. The love of God comes close
where stands an open door,
to let the stranger in,
to mingle rich and poor.
The love of God is here to stay,

embracing those who walk the Way;
the love of God is here to stay.

2. The peace of God comes close
to those caught in the storm,

forgoing lives of ease
to ease the lives forlorn.
The peace of God is here to stay,
embracing those who walk the Way;
the peace of God is here to stay.

3. The joy of God comes close
where faith encounters fears,
where heights and depths of life
are found through smiles and tears.
The joy of God is here to stay,
embracing those who walk the Way;
the joy of God is here to stay.

4. The grace of God comes close
to those whose grace is spent,
when hearts are tired or sore
and hope is bruised and bent.

The grace of God is here to stay,
embracing those who walk the Way;
the grace of God is here to stay.

5. The Son of God comes close
where people praise his name,
where bread and wine are blest
and shared as when he came.
The Son of God is here to stay,
embracing those who walk the Way;
the Son of God is here to stay.

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Guitar Postlude: "Guide me O Thou great Redeemer" and "Ode to joy" arr. by B. Nasmith

Thank you to Rev. Dr. Carol Loudon, our musicians, Bruce Nasmith, Anna Bateman, Erin Stone, Elias Theocharidis, and Christopher Tanaka-Mann, and Michael Nettleton for operating the sanctuary camera.

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"Discover the vitality of faith"