



OLYMPIA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
June 6, 2021 • 2nd Sunday after Pentacost • Communion Sunday

GATHERING

Gather

Together, we'll be patient and mercifully kind –
Not envying, boasting, prideful, or rude.
Not selfish, short-fused, score-keeping, or spiteful
But rejoicing in the goodness of what's to be shared.
Sound the alarm because love cannot fail.
Come resisters, revolutionaries, the meek who inherit the earth.
Here, as we worship, there will indeed be a story to tell.

Prelude

Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Welcome, Virtual Check-In & Announcements

Call-to-Worship Visual

Fill This Land

The Work of the People

Call-to-Worship Responsive

Servant: You were not made for the sabbath, but the sabbath was made for you.

People: We choose to gather on this sabbath to worship, to pray, and to share with one another.

Servant: Jesus asked, "Is it lawful on the sabbath to do good or to harm, to save life or to kill?"

People: We choose compassion and justice and healing.

In this sabbath time together we choose life.

Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

#67

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.
Under the shadow of your throne still may we dwell secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

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Hymn (continued)

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

#67

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come;
Be Thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home

Invocation

O holy God, we know the beauty of this June day and we are grateful. We experience the warm stirring of summer and the fullness of earth and we are grateful. We share the love of family and friends and the family and friendship that is our church, and we are grateful. We know the opportunity to bring new selves to this new day that we might worship with our community in joy and thanksgiving and be filled with the good news we would offer everyone. For all these things we are deeply grateful. Amen.

The Written Word

Isaiah 6:8

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”
And I said, “Here I am, send me!”

Mission Moment

Here I am, Send Me

Camp Bethel

Tithes & Offerings

COMING TO THE TABLE

Invitation

Written Word

2 Corinthians 4:13–5:1

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture – “I believed, and so I spoke” – we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Confession

God has always been there for us, loving us and calling us to be all that we can be. Let us tell God all about ourselves, not leaving anything out. Hear now our prayer of confession:

Ever loving God, you have given us life itself and have asked us to be life-giving people in your name. But we, in turn, have cared more about ourselves and the comfort that we have than about your people in every place. There are people in our very presence who are left out of your thoughts and prayers, because our minds and hearts are too crowded with all the things that will make us feel self-satisfied. God, give us the purpose to be faithful disciples in your care.

Through Christ we pray – Amen

Song

Will the Circle Be Unbroken?

Will the circle be unbroken? Will the power of death prevail? Will the voices seeking justice be rejected and grow frail? Will revenge replace forgiveness? Will our pride replace God's peace? Will the innocents be victims and the violence increase?

Will the words our God has spoken be revised or be ignored? Will the love that made and formed us be rejected for the sword? Will the God who cries, "forgiveness," is the only way to peace, be blocked out by cries of anger? Will the fighting ever cease?

Here the body, blessed and broken, and the love of Christ outpoured is the only food of freedom for the servants of the Lord. Here the stories shared at table call us all to peaceful ways; show us Christ in all creation, show us love's the only way.

Communion

Bread + Cup

Assurance of Pardon

Servant: There is no greater joy in the heart of God than the moment when a son or daughter opens to the gift of forgiveness. God's Spirit reach out to assure us of welcome in Christ.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ we are God's by grace. With great joy we are made alive.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

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Song

Come and Find the Quiet Center

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed: clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace, God it is who speaks and names us, know our being, touches base, making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain, let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain; there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care, in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare.

ENTERING GOD'S WORD

The Written Word

1st Samuel 8:4–11, (12–15), 16–20, (11:14–15)

NSRV

Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, and said to him, "You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations." But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to govern us." Samuel prayed to the Lord, and the Lord said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. Now then, listen to their voice; only – you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them." So Samuel reported all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking him for a king. He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots; and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers. He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers. He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle and donkeys, and put them to his work. He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the Lord will not answer you in that day." But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, "No! but we are determined to have a king over us, so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles." Samuel said to the people, "Come, let us go to Gilgal and there renew the kingship." So all the people went to Gilgal, and there they made Saul king before the Lord in Gilgal. There they sacrificed offerings of well-being before the Lord, and there Saul and all the Israelites rejoiced greatly.

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Spoken Word

There's No Such Thing as Perfect

Rev. Mark Rambo

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Song

Things My Heart Will Know

Darrell Born

Written Word

Psalm 130

Help, God – I've hit rock bottom! Master, hear my cry for help! Listen hard! Open your ears! Listen to my cries for mercy. If you, God, kept records on wrongdoings, who would stand a chance? As it turns out, forgiveness is your habit, and that's why you're worshiped I pray to God – my life a prayer – and wait for what God will say and do. My life is on the line before God, my Lord, waiting and watching till morning, waiting and watching till morning. O Israel, wait and watch for God – with God's arrival comes love, with God's arrival comes generous redemption. No doubt about it – God will redeem Israel, buy back Israel from captivity to sin.

The Prayers of the People

Our God, sometimes we feel we are made of mere clay and we do not trust ourselves at all. At other moments we feel that we're precious jewels – your gift to the world – and we take ourselves too seriously. Help us God, to understand ourselves and one another. Remind us that if we are priceless, it is because we have been named and formed by your love. As we busy ourselves shaping our lives and our world, remind us that the business of creating and sustaining is your work. Yet we know there is much in this world that requires our care. Grant us the strength to bear that burden and the capacity to trust and to laugh. In all our works, O God, draw forth your ways of redeeming, where cross and tomb are seen as doors to new life. We pray, as we would live, in the name of the Risen One who opens every door for us. Amen.

Hymn

I Would Be True

#432, v. 1, 2 4

I would be true, for there are those who trust me; I would be pure, for there are those who care
I would be strong, for there is much to suffer; I would be brave, for there is much to dare;
I would be brave, for there is much to dare.

I would be friend of all – the foe, the friendless; I would be giving, and forget the gift;
I would be humble, for I know my weakness; I would look up, and laugh, and love, and lift;
I would look up, and laugh, and love, and lift.

I would be prayerful through each busy moment; I would be constantly in touch with God;
I would be tuned to hear God's slightest whisper, I would have faith to keep the path Christ trod
I would have faith to keep the path Christ trod.

Weekly Challenge

Postlude

Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Benediction

Walk Humbly • Love Completely • Live Differently