

Welcome & Announcements

Deacon Meggin Turk

Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Responsive Call-to-Worship

Deacon Meggin Turk

Servant: Come to Christ, the living bread, who satisfies those who hunger and thirst for what is right

People: We come to Christ, who gives living water, that we may never thirst again.

Servant: Come to Christ, that being filled yourself, you may minister to the hunger and thirst of others.

People: We come to God, in worship and praise, through Jesus Christ, who gives us life.

Hymn

Prelude

Come, Thou Almighty King

#88

Come, thou Almighty King, help us thy name to sing, help us to praise.

Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious, come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, thou Incarnate Word, gird on thy mighty sword, our prayer attend

Come, and Thy people bless, and give thy word success; Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear, in this glad hour.

Thou who almighty art, now rule in ev'ry heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

To the great One in Three, eternal praises be, hence evermore.

Thy sov'reign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

Invocation

Pastor Caroline Lehman

We worship you, O God, and thank you that you receive us when we turn to you.

We turn to you now, trusting the promise of Jesus Christ to be with us whenever two or three gather in his name.

Come to us, and fill us with your Spirit of unity and truth, that we may serve you in the world; for we pray in Jesus' name.

Amen.

OLYMPIA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH September 5, 2021 • 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Hymn O Worship the King, All Glorious Above

#90

O worship the King all-glorious above, O gratefully sing his power and his love: our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might and sing of his grace, whose robe is the light, whose canopy space. His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light; it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in you do we trust, nor find you to fail. Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

The Written Word

Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23

Theo Yu

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold. The rich and the poor have this in common: The Lord is the maker of them all.

Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail. Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.

Do not rob the poor because they are poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate; for the Lord pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them.

Special Music

Flute Medley

Yim Locke

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty • Be Thou My Vision This is My Father's World • Our Best Friend

Tithes and Offerings

Pastor Caroline Lehman

The Written Word

Psalm 146 • NRSV

Theo Yu

Hallelujah! O my soul, praise God! All my life long I'll praise God, singing songs to my God as long as I live. Don't put your life in the hands of experts who know nothing of life, of salvation life. Mere humans don't have what it takes; when they die, their projects die with them. Instead, get help from the God of Jacob, put your hope in God and know real blessing! God made sky and soil, sea and all the fish in it. God always does what he says – defends the wronged, feeds the hungry. God frees prisoners – gives sight to the blind, lifts up the fallen. God loves good people, protects strangers, takes the side of orphans and widows, but makes short work of the wicked. God's in charge – always. Zion's God is God for good! Hallelujah!

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Prayers of the People

Pastor Caroline Lehman

Father of ALL created beings, we as the people here in Olympia in corporate, together worship, pray in our hearts and on our knees as we experience and look at our world as it is today. We grieve for so much of our nation. Water, fire and electricity are such gifts to us. But now we see too much water & weather devastating the eastern part of our nation, after it has devastated our southern side of the nation leading to a lack of electricity, food and water in the midst of great heat. Our western side has devastating fires, forcing people to flee.

Beyond the United States, Haiti, again, has suffered another devastating earthquake leading to much need. Afghanistan has many trapped people still desperate to get out. And over the whole world Covid has caused severe illness and much death.

Micah 4 speaks of beating swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks, not training for war but producing enough food for everyone. Every person will sit under their own vine and fig tree and no one or devastation will make them afraid. That every person will be safe and secure and at peace.

At this moment, in this time that seems so unattainable and impossible to happen. Our hearts are hurting, hurt so much... Thank you that we do have hope, for many times we see that you are a God of possibilities. We now ask that you bring the light for hope for those people who long for safety, security and to not be afraid. Amen.

The Spoken Word

Matthew 13: 1-32

Theo Yu

Hymn

The Master Has Come

#502, v. 2-3

The Master has called us; the road may be dreary, and dangers and sorrows are strewn on the track; but God's Holy Spirit shall comfort the weary;

we follow the Savior and cannot turn back;

The Master has called us:

though doubt and temptation may compass our journey, we cheerfully sing:

"press onward, look upward," thru much tribulation; the children of Zion must follow their King.

The Master has called us, in life's early morning, with spirits as fresh as the dew on the sod: we turn from the world, with its smiles and its scorning, to cast in our lot with the people of God: the Master has called us, His sons and His daughters,

We plead for His blessing and trust in His love;

and thru the green pastures, beside the still waters,

He'll lead us at last to His kingdom above.

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Benediction Walk Humbly • Love Completely • Live Differently

Theo Yu

Postlude

Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Our Guest Preacher this morning is Theo Yu.

Theo is a member of Emmanuel Bible Fellowship. He has been an Elder, a teacher and the point-person for that congregation's involvement with Table Grace.

Theo has worn many different "hats" in his professional life, from Police Officer in Los Angeles to being a part of Gov. Gary Locke's staff.

I hope you will receive Theo warmly as he shares with us this morning.

ALIVE IN THE SPIRIT OF GOD

If you don't have kindling wood in your fireplace, a lit match won't burn very long.

It's the same with the Spirit. Daily we are nudged by God's Spirit.

Do we know it? Do we know how to respond to the nudges?

On September 19th, at 8:30 a.m., I will begin teaching on responding to the nudges of God's Spirit in our lives. More information will follow.

Pastor Sam Hochstatter