



OLYMPIA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
14th Sunday after Pentecost • September 6, 2020

GATHERING

*Come, let us gather together in spirit and in truth!
Come, let us gather, in hope of meeting the Holy One!
Come, let us gather, before the Table of grace!
Come, let us bring our whole selves into God's healing presence, Come!*

Prelude

Nick Carlson

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Mark Rambo

Virtual Check-In

GATHERED & ENGAGED

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of our hearts,
be acceptable in Your sight, O God, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen!
Psalm 19:14

Call to Worship

Come to Christ, the living bread, who satisfies those who hunger and thirst for what is right.
Come to Christ, who gives living water, that you may never thirst again.
Come to Christ, that being filled yourself, you may minister to the hunger and thirst of others.
Come to God, in worship and praise, through Jesus Christ, who gives us life.

Hymn

O Worship the King

O worship the King, all glorious above, O gratefully sing God's power and God's love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.
O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace, whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
God's chariots of wrath the deep thunder clouds form,
and dark is God's path on the wings of the storm
Thy 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 Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender! how firm to the end! Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer and Friend.

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Invocation

Spirit of the Living God, be with your kaleidoscopic Church. We are many-colored and multi-shaped, with fragments that focus and focus again always in different patterns as we turn to the light of your Presence. Help us to love the pattern and the turning, and to trust in the beauty of a wholeness we may rarely see. Amen.

COMING TO THE TABLE

Invitation in Song

Come to the Table

Common Hymnal

Come all proud, come all greedy; Come all liars, come all shamed;
Come all wealthy, come receive it
To the table, come today. Come all broken, come all needy; Come all poor, come all slaves
Come all rulers, come be seated; Come all sinners, come all saints

Come to the table, from near and far; come from the shadows, come out of the dark
There's room at the table, we saved you a seat. Come to the banquet, come join in the feast.

Every race, every nation; Come all rebels, come all gay, from the fringes, come to Jesus
To a table full of grace, To the table come and stay.

Come to the table, come eat and drink; there's no inner circle, come dine with the king
Recline at the table, come let down your guard; You're never a stranger, just come as you are.

Come be whole, come be loved; Come accepted, come now come;
Come be whole, come be loved
Come accepted, come now come; Come be whole, come be loved;
Come accepted, come now come

Prepared is the table, we're ready to feast; the party is waiting, there's more still to feed
The harvest is ready, so go fill every seat; Go live out the mission as a kingdom of priests

Go live out your mission as a kingdom of priests.
Come be whole, come be loved; come accepted, come now come;
Come be whole, come be loved
Come accepted, come now come; Come now come, come now come.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, whose care never ceases, we come to you as we are. We are tired from trying to do more than we can manage. We are anxious about problems which go unresolved. We are worried about events beyond our control. We do not easily let go. For mistakes we cannot redeem, for tasks left undone, for uncertain goals, we need your forgiveness and ask for your understanding. For recovery for strength and enthusiasm, we pray for your Spirit. For fullness of life, generous hearts, and contented souls, we pray to be followers of Christ Jesus. In your mercy, restore us and lead us. Amen.

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RESPONDING GOD'S WORD

Song/Prayer of Preparation

Communion

Common Hymnal

We eat this bread and drink this cup; Remembering what You have done
The Cross before and gates ahead; We will feast on life, not death.
At this table You reveal; This sacrament, a holy meal
A promise made, a covenant; never broken, always kept
This is communion, with our God; This is communion with our king
Our hearts wide open, our lives laid bare; This is communion, this is communion.
The scarlet hope, the purest Lamb; Petitions for us at Your hand
The lion's roar, His fiery breath, has warmed our hearts to stand again
This is communion, with our God; This is communion with our king
Our hearts wide open, our lives laid bare; This is communion
This is communion, with our God; This is communion with our king
Our hearts wide open, our lives laid bare; This is communion
In glory we will stand amazed; when Christ shall come, the banquet laid
We'll feast our eyes our hearts will burst and we will know communion
We will share communion; We will have communion

Communion

Bread & Cup

Assurance of Pardon

Friends...Brothers and Sisters, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve. Alleluia! Amen!

Song

Be Not Afraid

Darrell Born

You shall cross the barren desert but you shall not die of thirst
You shall wander far in safety though you do not know the way
You shall speak your words in foreign lands and all will understand
You shall see the face of God and live.
Be not afraid; I go before you always. Come follow me and I will give you rest
If you pass through raging waters in the sea, you shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames, you shall not be harmed
If you stand before the pow'r of hell and death is at your side,
know that I am with you through it all
Be not afraid; I go before you always. Come follow me and I will give you rest
Blessed are your poor, for the kingdom shall be theirs
Blessed are you that weep and mourn, for one day you shall laugh
And if wicked tongues insult and hate you, all because of me; Blessed, blessed are you
Be not afraid; I go before you always. Come follow me and I will give you rest

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HEARING GOD'S WORD

The Written Word

Ephesians 4:17–5:2

The Message

And I insist – and God backs me up on this – that there be no going along with the crowd, the empty-headed, mindless crowd. They've refused for so long to deal with God that they've lost touch not only with God but with reality itself. They can't think straight anymore. Feeling no pain, they let themselves go in sexual obsession, addicted to every sort of perversion.

But that's no life for you. You learned Christ! My assumption is that you have paid careful attention to him, been well instructed in the truth precisely as we have it in Jesus. Since, then, we do not have the excuse of ignorance, everything – and I do mean everything – connected to that old way of life has to go. It's rotten through and through. Get rid of it! And then take on an entirely new way of life – a God-fashioned life, a life renewed from the inside and working itself into your conduct as God accurately reproduces God's character in you. What this adds up to, then, is this: no more lies, no more pretense. Tell your neighbor the truth. In Christ's body we're all connected to each other, after all. When you lie to others, you end up lying to yourself.

Go ahead and be angry. You do well to be angry – but don't use your anger as fuel for revenge. And don't stay angry. Don't go to bed angry. Don't give the Devil that kind of foothold in your life. Did you use to make ends meet by stealing? Well, no more! Get an honest job so that you can help others who can't work. Watch the way you talk. Let nothing foul or dirty come out of your mouth. Say only what helps, each word a gift. Don't grieve God. Don't break God's heart. The Holy Spirit, moving and breathing in you, is the most intimate part of your life, making you fit for the Spirit. Don't take such a gift for granted. Make a clean break with all cutting, backbiting, profane talk. Be gentle with one another, sensitive. Forgive one another as quickly and thoroughly as God in Christ forgave you.

Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parent(s). Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with God and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. Christ didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.

The Spoken Word

Community Rule – Celtic Style

Rev. Mark Rambo

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Mission Moment

Camp Bethel

Tithes and Offerings

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Prayers of the People

A Prayer for September

Rev. Mark Rambo

O God, this is a month of changes. We can feel it in the cooler air, the drop in humidity, the gray skies. Some of us have found our way back to school this month, and we all want to learn. Let us all grow in wisdom and maturity. Some of us are watching our harvest begin, while the gardens of others among us produce less and less. Let all our hearts produce love and kindness. Many of us are leaving vacations behind, but God, you can keep our lives renewed by filling us with your joy and your rest. Creative God, every year the world spins through its seasons and every year brings new trouble. Steady and soothe the earth that its changes may be good changes and its struggles end in peace. Loving God, who without change remains our steadfast friend, watch over the changes in our lives. May we stretch and grow but always and ever remain yours, in Christ. Amen.

Hymn

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

All the way my Savior leads me; what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt His tender mercy, who thru life has been my guide?
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in Him to dwell!
For I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well (2x)

All the way my Savior leads me; Cheers each winding path I tread
Gives me grace for every trial, feeds me with the living bread;
Though my weary steps may falter, and my soul a-thirst may be,
Gushing from the rock before me, Lo! a spring of joy I see (2x)

All the way my Savior leads me; O the fullness of His love!
Perfect rest to me is promised, in my Father's house above;
When my spirit, clothed immortal, wings its flight to realms of day,
This my song thru endless ages, Jesus led me all the way, (2x)

Weekly Challenge

Postlude

Nick Carlson

Benediction

Walk Humbly – Love Completely – Live Differently