



OLYMPIA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
October 10, 2021 • 20th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

Welcome, Check-in and Announcements

Prelude

Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Responsive Call-to-Worship

Servant: We wait for God that God might save us.

People: Let us be glad and rejoice in God's salvation.

Servant: God will swallow up death forever and will wipe away the tears from all faces.

People: Let us be glad and share in God's salvation.

Servant: God will take away all reproach and will make a feast for the peoples of the earth.

People: Let us act with compassion, so that we may dry tears. Let us walk, with justice, so that we may silence reproach. Let us make festival, with all people, so that God's feast may be well-prepared.

Hymn

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

#45

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.

With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.

What God's almighty power hath made His gracious mercy keepeth;
By morning glow or evening shade His watchful eye ne'er sleepeth;
Within the kingdom of His might, Lo! all is just and all is right:
To God all praise and glory.

The Lord is never far away, but through all grief distressing,
an ever-present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing.
As with a mother's tender hand, God leads His own, the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory.

Thus all my gladsome way along, I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song, my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, both soul and body bear your part:
To God all praise and glory.

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Invocation

Holy Spirit of God, who gathers the church into one body, all praise and glory. Gather us again in your presence and strengthen the bonds of affection that hold your people together. Bless us with grace to cooperate with one another in love and service. Teach us to show compassion for those in need, to face challenges with imagination and prayerful trust. May your church bring forth your uniting love to our fractured world. Amen.

The Written Word

Psalm 90: 12-17

The Message

Oh! Teach us to live well! Teach us to live wisely and well! Come back, God – how long do we have to wait? – and treat your servants with kindness for a change. Surprise us with love at daybreak; then we'll skip and dance all the day long. Make up for the bad times with some good times; we've seen enough evil to last a lifetime. Let your servants see what you're best at – the ways you rule and bless your children. And let the loveliness of our Lord, our God, rest on us, confirming the work that we do. Oh, yes. Affirm the work that we do!

Ministry Moment

Thailand – International Ministries Video

Ruby Mitchell

Tithes & Offerings

Music

In the Garden

Choir

I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.
And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that He gave to me within my heart is ringing.
And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

I'd stay in the garden with Him tho' the night around me be falling;
But He bids me go; thro' the voice of woe, His voice to me is calling.
And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

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Video

Live the Question

The Work of the People

“Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves, like locked rooms and like books that are now written in a very foreign tongue. Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. And the point is, to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer.”

- Rainer Maria Rilke

ENTERING GOD’S STORY

The Written Word

Job 23: 1–9, 16–17

NRSV

Then Job answered: “Today also my complaint is bitter; his hand is heavy despite my groaning. Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his dwelling! I would lay my case before him, and fill my mouth with arguments. I would learn what he would answer me, and understand what he would say to me. Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; but he would give heed to me. There an upright person could reason with him, and I should be acquitted forever by my judge. “If I go forward, he is not there; or backward, I cannot perceive him; on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him; I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.

God has made my heart faint; the Almighty has terrified me; If only I could vanish in darkness, and thick darkness would cover my face!

The Spoken Word

Hide and Seek

Rev. Mark Rambo

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

#162

What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged, take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness, Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—Take it to the Lord in prayer;
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He’ll take and shield thee, thou wilt find a solace there.

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Video

The Day is Near

The Work of the People

Prayers of the People

Rev. Mark Rambo

Hymn

I've Found a Friend

#478

I've found a Friend, O such a Friend! He loved me ere I knew Him;
He drew me with the cords of love, and thus He bound me to Him;
And round my heart still closely twine those ties which naught can sever,
For I am His, and He is mine, Forever and forever.

I've found a Friend, O such a Friend! He bled, He died to save me;
And not alone the gift of life, but His own self He gave me.
Naught that I have mine own I call, I'll hold it for the giver;
My heart, my strength, my life, my all Are His, and His forever.

I've found a Friend, O such a Friend! So kind and true and tender,
So wise a counsellor and guide, so mighty a defender!
From Him who loves me now so well, what power my soul shall sever?
Shall life or death, shall earth or hell? No! I am His forever.

Weekly Challenge

Postlude

Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Benediction

Walk Humbly • Love Completely • Live Differently