

Worship Service on Sunday, July 17, 2022

Welcome and Greeting God is good **all the time**. All the time **God is good**.

Question of the Day Which is NOT a school supply? a) pony b) pencils c) markers d) pens

***Hymn** “Forever”

***Call to Worship**

Come, people of faith, trust in God’s steadfast love.

We take refuge in God’s eternal presence.

We want to acknowledge God first in our lives.

We seek to rely on God’s power.

***Prayer of Invocation**

Awesome God, we thirst for your Word. We long to make sense of so much we do not understand. We want our worship to be more than a quick diversion from tasks that seem more pressing. We want to believe there is more to life than seeking personal gain. We bring to you today our troubles and anxieties, our estrangements and hostilities, our boasting and deceptions. Meet us with truth we cannot avoid. Amen.

Psalm 52 *New Revised Standard Version*

Why do you boast, O mighty one, of mischief done against the godly?

All day long you are plotting destruction.

Your tongue is like a sharp razor, you worker of treachery.

You love evil more than good, and lying more than speaking the truth.

You love all words that devour, O deceitful tongue.

But God will break you down forever;

he will snatch and tear you from your tent;

he will uproot you from the land of the living.

The righteous will see, and fear, and will laugh at the evildoer, saying,

“See the one who would not take refuge in God,

but trusted in abundant riches, and sought refuge in wealth!”

But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God.

I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever.

I will thank you forever, because of what you have done,

in the presence of the faithful I will proclaim your name,

for it is good.

Amos 8:1-12 *The Message*

My Master GOD showed me this vision: A bowl of fresh fruit.

He said, “What do you see, Amos?”

I said, “A bowl of fresh, ripe fruit.”

GOD said, “Right. So, I’m calling it quits with my people Israel. I’m no longer acting as if everything is just fine.”

“The royal singers will wail when it happens.” My Master GOD said so.

“Corpses will be strewn here, there, and everywhere. Hush!”

Listen to this, you who walk all over the weak, you who treat poor people as less than nothing. Who say, “When’s my next paycheck coming so I can go out and live it up? How long till the weekend when I can go out and have a good time?” Who give little and take much, and never do an honest day’s work. You exploit the poor, using them – and then, when they’re used up, you discard them.

GOD swears against the arrogance of Jacob: "I'm keeping track of their every last sin." God's oath will shake earth's foundations, dissolve the whole world into tears. God's oath will sweep in like a river that rises, flooding houses and lands, and then recedes, leaving behind a sea of mud.

"On Judgment Day, watch out!" These are the words of GOD, my Master. "I'll turn off the sun at noon. In the middle of the day the earth will go black. I'll turn your parties into funerals and make every song you sing a dirge. Everyone will walk around in rags, with sunken eyes and bald heads. Think of the worst that could happen – your only son, say, murdered. That's a hint of Judgment Day – that and much more.

"Oh yes, Judgment Day is coming!" These are the words of my Master GOD. "I'll send a famine through the whole country. It won't be food or water that's lacking, but my Word. People will drift from one end of the country to the other, roam to the north, wander to the east. They'll go anywhere, listen to anyone, hoping to hear GOD's Word – but they won't hear it."

Response: *The Word of God, for the people of God! Thanks be to God!*

Hymn "Thy Word"

Time of Prayer

How Is It With Your Soul?

Call to Confession

Our worship is hollow and empty if it is only a small, separate compartment in our lives. No matter how good we are, all of us need a time of reorientation and reconciliation. That is why, together, we confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Take away our distractions, O God, so we may be confronted by your expectation of us. We realize our busy striving after things has dulled our awareness of you. We have sought fulfillment in ways that deny you and hurt other people. Sometimes our success tramples the needy and brings ruin to the poor. Even our benevolence becomes self-serving. O God, we want to find our hope in you. Help us, we pray.

Time of Silent Prayer

Do you truly want to be forgiven? If that is your honest choice, experience that forgiveness now in the very core of your being. And every day, dwell consciously in God's presence in the midst of all you do. Through grace we join together in praying the prayer of Jesus:

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Answer to the Question of the Day

Time of Offering *Thank you to everyone for your faithful generosity.*

***Offering Prayer**

God, we bring our gifts and our talents, our sacrifice of praise, our prayers and shouts of thanksgiving, to celebrate your faithfulness. Give us wisdom as a church, so that this offering is used for the sharing of your word and the service of your people. In the name of the One that gave us everything we are and have. Amen.

***Song of Offering** "Sanctuary"

Message "Words" Rev. Joyce Rich

***Commission and Blessing**

Let your faith be evident in all your dealings.

Share humbly and caringly the hope that is in you.

We believe others can hear the Word of God through us.

We will be careful to represent the gospel faithfully.

Give thanks to God for both comfort and judgment.

We praise God for both reassurance and challenge.

Amen. **And Amen.**

***Hymn** “Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Announcements

Read For Next Week: Psalm 85; Luke 11:1-13

*Liturgical resources drawn from: **Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion; Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2**, Kimberly Bracken Long, editor
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