

Worship Services on July 18 and 19, 2021

Welcome

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

Question of the Day What is an “art box”?

a) archival storage b) decorated box c) box of art supplies d) hinged lid plastic box

Call to Worship

Come and worship!

Leave behind your busyness to be fully present with God.

God’s steadfast love surrounds us.

God invites us to feel at home.

Prayer of Invocation

Holy Spirit, come and dwell in us. Amen.

Hymn “Cornerstone”

II Samuel 7:1-16 Revised English Bible

Once the king was established in his palace and the LORD had given him security from his enemies on all sides, he said to Nathan the prophet, ‘Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the Ark of God is housed in a tent.’ Nathan answered, ‘Do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you.’ But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ‘Go and say to David my servant, This is the word of the LORD: Are you to build me a house to dwell in? Down to this day I have never dwelt in a house since I brought Israel up from Egypt; I lived in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I journeyed with Israel, did I ever ask any of the judges whom I appointed shepherds of my people Israel why they had not built me a cedar house?’

‘Then say this to my servant David: This is the word of the LORD of HOSTS: I took you from the pastures and from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have destroyed all the enemies in your path. I shall bring you fame like the fame of the great ones of the earth. I shall assign a place for my people Israel; there I shall plant them to dwell in their own land. They will be disturbed no more; never again will the wicked oppress them as they did in the past, from the day when I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I shall give you peace from all your enemies.

‘The LORD has told you that he would build up your royal house. When your life ends and you rest with your forefathers, I shall set up one of your family, one of your own children, to succeed you, and I shall establish his kingdom. It is he who is to build a house in honour of my name, and I shall establish his royal throne for all time. I shall be a father to him, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I shall punish him as any father might, and not spare the rod. But my love will never be withdrawn from him as I withdrew it from Saul, whom I removed from your path. Your family and your kingdom will be established for ever in my sight; your throne will endure for all time.’

Psalms 89:20-37 Revised English Bible

I have found David my servant and anointed him with my sacred oil.

My hand will be ready to help him, my arm to give him strength.

No enemy will outwit him, no wicked person will oppress him;

I shall crush his adversaries before him and strike down those who are hostile to him.

My faithfulness and love will be with him and through my name he will hold his head high.

I shall establish his rule over the sea, his dominion over the rivers.

He will call to me, 'You are my father, my God, my rock where I find safety.'
I shall give him the rank of firstborn, highest among the kings of the earth.
I shall maintain my love for him for ever and be faithful in my covenant with him.
I shall establish his line for ever and his throne as long as the heavens endure.

If his children forsake my law and do not conform to my judgements,
if they violate my statutes and do not observe my commandments,
then I shall punish their disobedience with the rod, their iniquity with lashes.
Yet I shall not deprive him of my love, nor swerve from my faithfulness;
I shall not violate my covenant, nor alter what I have promised.
I have sworn by my holiness once and for all, I shall not break my word to David:
his posterity will continue for ever, his throne before me like the sun;
like the moon it will endure for ever a faithful witness in the sky.

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

Time of Prayer

How Is It With Your Soul?

Prayer of Intercession

O God, merciful and just, kind and compassionate, forever faithful, we pray for the world Christ came to save. We pray for the kingdom you are bringing through Christ. Bless the church, the body of Christ, with the power of the Holy Spirit. Then send us out to proclaim the good news that in Jesus Christ there is newness of life.

We pray for all who are weary from hard labor, especially for those who are not fairly paid, for those who work in dangerous places, for those trapped in slavery. Break their yokes of oppression and bonds of bitterness.

We pray for all who serve on behalf of others, especially those who care for the sick, elderly, and dying; for those who fight fires, enforce just laws, serve in the military; for those who hold public office. Build up all people in peace and freedom.

We pray for ourselves, that we will be faithful, especially in times of temptation; may we have strength to serve others; and let our love for one another and you grow ever deeper. Build us spiritually into a dwelling place for you, O God.

(Time of Silent Prayer)

With Christ we pray:

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

Almighty God, enthroned in eternity; crucified and risen Christ, dwelling in heaven and with your people; powerful Holy Spirit, bringing life and truth; we thank you for calling us when we had no hope and for crowning us with salvation. We thank you for enriching our lives with all that is good and for providing for us in times of trial. Make us ever more mindful of the blessings you grant us each day; deepen our trust in your love and mercy. Increase our thanksgiving by guiding our offerings to help others in need. Unite us all in a community of thanksgiving, always glorifying you, O God, now and forever. Amen.

Sermon “Looking Ahead” Rev. Joyce Rich

Blessing

God grant you peace in your sleeping and waking;
Christ fill you with joy in your working and playing;
the Holy Spirit drive you with passion in your love for God.
Amen. **And Amen.**

Hymn “The Time Has Come”

Announcements

Readings For Next Week: John 6:1-21; Ephesians 3:14-21

*Liturgical resources drawn from: **Led by Love: Worship Resources for Year B**, Lavon Bayler © 1996 United Church Press; and **Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 2**, Kimberly Bracken Long, Editor © 2015 Westminster John Knox Press.*