

Worship: July 26, 2020

PRELUDE

“Be Thou My Vision”

--Manz

CALL TO WORSHIP

God has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Let's pray:

It is good to be together, God,
on these screens, with these people,
together listening for your voice,
united by your Spirit.
In this time of worship
tell us about your kingdom of kindness
so that we can seek it.
Show us your justice.
We want to walk with you,
humbly, closely, daily.

HANDBELL SOLO: “Ah So Pure”

CALL TO CONFESSION

God doesn't call us to a blind faith...
but to a faith that is eye-opening and mind-expanding.
But we often find it more beneficial for ourselves
if we pretend we cannot see or understand God's vision for creation.

So please join me in the prayer of confession...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O Lord, you have searched us and know us.
You known when we cultivate kindness
and our lives bear fruit that blesses the world.
You know, too, when our word sow seeds
of discord
and our actions choke out generosity and
grace.
When we produce more weed than wheat,
forgive us.
As we wait with eager longing
for your reign to be revealed in our midst,
plant within us gifts of love and mercy,
so that we might live as children of the
Kingdom
and bear fruit that enriches your harvest.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is Good News:

God does not mock us when we fail to trust,
but invites us into a deeper, more intimate relationship.

*Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand in my side.
Trust me!*

God does not shame us when our faith waivers,
but challenges us to be strengthened by God's promises.

Happy are those who don't see...and yet trust!

God's purpose is not to tear us down...but to build us up...
forgiven...refreshed...and renewed!

So let's sing...and let's give thanks to God!

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 128

SERMON

HANDBELL SOLO: “Joyous Morning”

PASTORAL PRAYER

God of light, we have heard your message, proclaimed of old,
that in you there is no dark cloud at all;
nothing exists that can hide the light of your presence. Forgive
us when we cling to the shadows, failing
to heed your call to wake up and join the work of your reign.
Send us to do your deeds of mercy and peace:
to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, touch the sick with
your healing balm, console the sorrowing,
visit the prisoners, welcome the stranger.

Guide us in this time of shadows. Keep us from despair when
we see that there is no peace in our cities
and no security in our places of higher learning. Lift our eyes
toward you that we may see your face
shining on us and walk in your light. Comfort with your
presence those who are living in the shadow
of grief, shattered by the loss of children, parents, spouses,
friends, and colleagues. Give assurance
to all who are missing loved ones that the living and the dead
are in your care, certain of being
joined again in the unbroken circle that will sing your praise
forever. Amen

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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

HYMN #450 Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision O ruler of all.

POSTLUDE: "March" -Purcell

BENEDICTION

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on
you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and
give you peace.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Music: Jared Miner
Organ: Jeffrey Seekins
Officiant: Katherine E. Miner