

Sunday Worship

July 26, 2020

Order of Worship



Welcome to Worship

Rev. Nate Dove

Call to Worship

Eric & Kelli McCombs

Inspired by Mark 5:21-43

With friends and strangers,

**With family and neighbors, we gather:
Come among us, merciful healing God,**

With that love which never ends.

With faith reaching out to touch,

With hearts straining to trust, we hope:
Come among us, Friend of the broken,
with your compassion which makes us whole.

**With word and wonder,
with silence and song, we wait:
Come among us, Dryer of our tears,
to lift us to our feet to follow you.**

Hymn of Praise 73

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

WELLESLEY

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty.

There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good!
There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were more but simple, we should rest upon God’s word;
And our lives would be illumined by the presence of our Lord.

Scripture Reading

Carl & Nina Phillips

Matthew 5:1-2, 7

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Where cross the crowded ways of life, where sound the cries of clan and rave,
Above the noise of selfish strife, O Christ, we hear your voice of grace.

The cup of water given for you still holds the freshness of your grace;
Yet long these multitudes to view the strong compassion in your face.

Till all shall learn compassion’s might, following where your feet have trod;
Till glorious from your realm of light shall come the city of our God.

Spiritual Practice, Experiencing Mercy

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy

Remember a time in your life when someone had the right to retaliate against, but rather treated you with mercy and instead of giving you what you deserved offered you grace and forgiveness.

Think of a person in your life you have the right to retaliate against.
Are you able to offer them mercy and grace?

You may want to write the names of both these persons on a piece of paper and put them in a private place where you regularly see them to remind you that mercy is a gift that is meant to be shared.

Prayers of the Church

Rev. Allison Benfield

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.

Remember in Prayer

Andrew Adair, Emily Batts, Byron Bullard, Carol Drye, Don Furr, Camille Green, Polly Hull,
Gene & Carol Poole, Elma Thomas, Paislee, Alison Zieglmeier (daughter of Ken and Donna Scott),
Barbara Ledford, Our Weekday School and Head Start students, staff, and their families.

The family of Linda Walker following her death on July 21st.

To Carol Logan and her family following the death of her sister, Ellen Taylor of Conway, SC on Monday, July
20th.

To the family of Richard Canady who passed on ahead of us on Wednesday, July 22nd. A private internment
service is planned for next week.

Sympathy to the family of Pat Lloyd who passed on ahead of us Thursday evening, July 23rd. We are praying
for her husband, Paul, and their family. A private internment service is planned for next week.

Offertory

“Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)”

Chris Tomlin
arr. James Kevin Gray

*Amazing grace
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed*

*My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood God's mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace*

*O God of mercy, lord of love each day I seek your face
You tell me to serve all I meet and share with them your grace them your grace.*

*I'll shout to all the word abroad the God of Mercy, knows their names and
Will not rest 'til they find homes, and feel his love and share his grace.*

Message

“It's Okay, It's Alright

Rev. Dennis Foust, Ph.D.

Hymn of Discipleship 453 “Called as Partners in Christ's Service”

BEECHER

Called in partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

Introduction of New Members & Commissioning the Scattered Church

Postlude

“Trumpet Tune in F”

David Brunner

Today's worship leaders include Eric & Kelli McCombs; Nina & Carl Phillips; Rev. Nate Dove, Minister for Youth & Young Adults; Rev. Allison Benfield, Minister for Spiritual Formation; Noel Lance, organist; Kevin Gray, Minister for Worship & Music; and Rev. Dennis Foust, Ph. D., Senior Minister.

St. John's Baptist Church
Charlotte, North Carolina