

Sunday Worship

August 23, 2020

Order of Worship



Gathering Music

“This Little Light of Mine”

Jessica Borgnis

Welcome

Rev. Lee Gray

Call to Worship 282

“Light of Light Eternal”

ARNSBERG

Rev. Allison Benfield

& J Kevin Gray

ONE: I will bless you, God! You fill the world with awe!
You dress yourself in light, rich, majestic light.

**ALL: Light of light eternal, all things penetrating.
For your rays our souls are waiting.**

ONE: To you, O God, we lift up our souls.

**ALL: As the tender flowers, willingly unfolding,
to the sun their faces holding.**

ONE: To My soul, bless God!
All my being, bless God's holy name!

**ALL: Ever so would we do, light from you obtaining,
Strength to serve you gaining.**

Hymn of Praise

“Blessed to be a Blessing”

NETTLETON

Words by J Kevin Gray

God is gracious ever saving, full of love and faithfulness.
When we falter, sinking so low, God is there to heal and bless.
God has called us all as children; God has made us one with Christ.
We are blessed to be a blessing, offering all new life in Christ.

As we travel, on life's journey, we will see those filled with pain.
God will move us to be helpful, bringing sunlight to the rain.
God has called us all as children; God has made us one with Christ.
We are blessed to be a blessing, offering all new life in Christ.

Matthew 5:1-16

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 poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

Song

“You Are the Salt of the Earth”

You are salt of the earth, O people: salt for the Kingdom of God!
Share the flavor of life, O people: life in the Kingdom of God!

Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy, Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice, Bring forth the City of God!

You are the light on the hill, O people: light in the City of God!
Shine so holy and bright, O people: shine for the Kingdom of God!

Meditation

Derek Henson

Think about times in your life when you have been blessed by other people in your life. Take a moment to write down one or two of these times.

Make a note of the times when you were able to bless others.

*What are some ways we can bless others?
Who in your life could you bless this week? Who is in need?*

Prayers of the Church

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 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

Polly Hull, Gene & Carol Poole, Tom Bryson, Barbara Ledford, Elizabeth Laney,
Elma Thomas, Andrew Adair, Alison Zieglmeier (daughter of Ken and Donna Scott),

The Offertory

Chancel Choir

Message “Your Right-Side-Up Influence” Rev. Dennis W. Foust, Ph.D.

Hymn of Response “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” I’M GONNA LIVE

I’m gonna live so God can use me anytime and anywhere
I’m gonna live so God can use me anytime and anywhere.

I’m gonna work so God can use me anytime and anywhere
I’m gonna work so God can use me anytime and anywhere.

I’m gonna sing so God can use me anytime and anywhere
I’m gonna sing so God can use me anytime and anywhere.

Commissioning the Scattered Church

Rev. Lee Gray

Postlude

Tocatta on “Hyfrydol”
J Noel Lance, organist

St. John’s Baptist Church
Charlotte, North Carolina