

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sunday, November 7, 2021

The God Who Shows Up in Catastrophic and Challenging Times

Please silence all electronic devices.

Gathering Music

J. Noel Lance

Choral Introit

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name

Chancel Choir

Tom Fettke

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The majesty and glory of Your name.

Greeting

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

*Call to Worship

Rev. Allison Benfield

ONE: Come, let us gather to worship our Glorious God,
who delights in our worship, witness, and service.

**ALL: We gather to share our hope and trust in our
merciful God, who has never failed or forgotten us. Amen.**

**The Timeless Psalms" RCL Psalm Year A, used with permission.*

*Prayer of Submission

Rev. Benfield

*Hymn of Praise

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Chalice Hymnal No. 25, verses 1

LOBE DEN HEREN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Sing now in glad adoration!

Reading from the Gospel of John

Bert Green & Lucy Priest

John 9:1-7

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

ONE: This is the written word of God for the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn of Remembrance

For All The Saints

Chalice Hymnal No. 637, verses 1

SINE NOMINE

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest—
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress, and their Might;
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light—
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Litany for All Saints Sunday

Dr. Foust

ONE: For centuries, followers of Jesus have been sent out on mission living as vocational disciples to be ministers in daily life.

ALL: Jesus taught us, "As the Father has sent me, so send I you."

ONE: For almost 98 years, members of St. John's have recited together these words of our church covenant:

ALL: "We will be a servant church, recognizing the infinite worth of every person and believing that Christ has called us to active involvement in behalf of human brotherhood."

ONE: Today, we remember those saints of St. John's who served alongside us and who, during this past year, passed on ahead of us into the land of God's eternal rest.

Remembering St. John's Saints

Peg Russ, Doris Diehl, Erskine Harkey, Sara Page Lewis,
Carlotta Browder, Willa McNeill, Jerry McNeill,
Bryon Bullard, Elizabeth Laney, Richard Neff

Choral Anthem

Requiem

Chancel Choir

Arr. Eliza Gilkyson

Loving Father, full of grace, awaken all our homes are gone, our loved ones taken, taken by the sea.
Loving Father, calm our fears, have mercy drowning in a sea of tears, have mercy, hear our mournful plea. Our world has been shaken.

We wander our homelands forsaken. In the dark night of the soul bring some comfort to us all. Oh, Loving Father come and carry us in your embrace that our sorrows may be faced.

Father, fill the glass to overflowing illuminate the path where we are going. Have mercy on us all. In funeral fires burning each flame to your mystery returning.

In the dark night of the soul your shattered dreamers make them whole, oh, Loving Father find us where we've fallen out of grace. Lead us to a higher place.

In the dark night of the soul our broken hearts you can make whole. Oh, Loving father come and carry us in your embrace. Let us see your gentle face, Father.

The Church at Prayer

Rev. Lee Gray

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.

Prayer Concerns

Andrew Adair, Shirley Ballard, Katherine Barr, Carol Drye, Betty Fuller, Polly Hull, Jean Hutson, Barbara Ledford, Ashley Marin (granddaughter of the late Doris and Walt Tedder), Tish Philemon, Gene & Carol Poole, Viorica Secere, Don Swofford, Elma Thomas, Dee Turner

Retelling the Gospel Story Through Son

A Man Who Could Not See

Text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

LEONI

A man who could not see received the gift of sight;
O Lord, you spoke and he believed and saw the light.
His joy was greater still than sight that was restored;
He saw, when you had made him well, that you are Lord.

Some leaders were distressed and said it was a sin,
For it was on the day of rest that you healed him.
They could not see the grace or know how much God cares;
The lack of vision in that place was truly theirs.

O Christ, you are the light to all who follow you;
You give to us the gift of sight — a new world-view.
When culture hems us in with values that destroy,
Lord, help your church to see again your kingdom's joy.

Message

Assets of \$40.43 VS. Debt of \$78,090

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

*Song of Discipleship

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

I'm going to work so God can use me anytime and anywhere.
I'm going to work so God can use me anytime and anywhere.

Offertory Prayer

Elizabeth Peacock

Offertory

J. Noel Lance

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above ye heavenly host:
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Commissioning the Scattered Church

Dr. Foust

Postlude

J. Noel Lance