

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Reverend Gordon Rankin, Worship Leader
Online Worship
Member Recognition Sunday - November 8, 2020

PRELUDE “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” – arr. by Matt Hyzer Adam Peithmann

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Barbara Papagian

INTROIT “Thy Word” – Amy Grant/ Michael W. Smith
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: God calls us into a future that we cannot see.

People: **We come wondering where God is calling us now.**

Leader: God calls us to believe in a future of generosity and compassion.

People: **God calls us to commit our lives to love and service.**

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

Dear God, as we gather around our computers, iPhones, and other devices, we give thanks for Your presence in our lives. We thank You for Your blessings and unfailing love. We thank You for guidance through times of uncertainty and for lifting us up. Thank You for the Scripture that comforts us and reminds us of Your promises. Thank You for reminding us that our help comes from You. All this we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

HYMN #461 “Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”

MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE

PASTORAL PRAYER

TIME OF SILENCE

OUR 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE “Standing in the Need of Prayer”

It’s me, it’s me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer. Not my brother, not my sister, but it’s me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.

ANTHEM Gospel Prelude on “Jesus Loves Me” – William Bolcom

SCRIPTURE READING Jeanine Finefrock
Matthew 9:35-10:8

SERMON

“Kingdom Builders”

Rev. Gordon Rankin

CLOSING HYMN #606

“God, Whose Giving Know No Ending”

CLOSING WORDS

BENEDICTION

May the peace of God reign in this place
And the love of God forever hold you tight,
May the Spirit of God flow through your life
And the joy of God uphold you day and night.

POSTLUDE

“Toccata” by Douglas Wagner

Please note: In these difficult times, we are holding you all in our thoughts and prayers. For those who are able, we are grateful for your continuing contributions to the stewardship of our church.

The Reverend Gordon Rankin serves as the Conference Minister of the New Hampshire Conference of the United Church of Christ. Previously he has served as the Conference Minister of the South Dakota Conference, the Senior Pastor of the Congregational Church of Naugatuck (CT) and Associate Pastor of the First Congregational Church of Madison (CT). Gordon is married to the Reverend Paige Besse-Rankin (Pastor at First Parish Congregational in Dover, NH) and they have an 18-year-old daughter, Emily, who is freshman at Piedmont College.

Hymn No. 461 Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

1. Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need, who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed: we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart, consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart.

2. Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread; still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O lord, your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul, use the love your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.

3. As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight, making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear, stirring us to tireless striving your abundant life to share.

4. Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show; hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give, that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know, and live.

Hymn No. 606 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

1. God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

2. Skills and time are ours for pressing towards the goals of Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one. Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone; born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

3. Treasure too you have entrusted, gain thru powers your grace conferred; ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel Word. Open wide our hands, in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call, healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.