

FOURTH OF JULY SUNDAY

Rev. Kevin M. Pleas

Online Worship

July 4, 2021

PRELUDE “How Firm a Foundation with the Church’s One Foundation” Elizabeth Blood, Piano
& Adam Peithmann, Organ
- arr. Michael Ware

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Kevin Pleas

INTROIT # 673 “Down by the Riverside”

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: Happy are those whose hope is in God, maker of heaven and earth

People: For God keeps faith forever!

Leader: God executes justice for the oppressed and gives food for the hungry.

People: God sets the prisoners free and opens the eyes of the blind.

Leader: God lifts up those who are bowed down.

People: God watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow.

Leader: People of God, sing praise to the One who is your help—

People: for God keeps faith forever!

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

Most Gracious God, we greet you once again in this sacred time. We come to worship because we need to be reminded of your love and your expectations for our living. We are like the vine you planted, watered and protected. We know in our hearts that we need, want and desire your presence in our lives. So, we come in prayer and listen for your Word to speak to our hearts and reveal again your desires for us. Amen.

HYMN # 725 “God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Barbara Papagian

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 # 579 “Standing in the Need of Prayer”

MUSICAL OFFERING “From Sea to Shining Sea” FCC Virtual Choir
– Samuel A. Ward/arr. Maurice C. Whitney

SCRIPTURE READING Michelle Harrington
Mark 6:1-6 (New Revised Standard Version)

He went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, “Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. And Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.” And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. And he marveled because of their unbelief.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

“Outside the Box”

Rev. Kevin Pleas

HYMN # 721

“My Country ‘Tis of Thee”

CLOSING WORDS

BENEDICTION (Unison)

**Go forth from this place rejoicing,
Knowing that your relationship with God is secure.
You are loved, sought after and cared for,
In the name of God, the Creator, Christ and the Holy Spirit.**

Amen

POSTLUDE

“Maple Leaf Rag” – Scott Joplin/arr. Gregory Eaton

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.

Introit
Hymn no. 673

“Down by the Riverside”

1. Gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside, down by the riverside, down by the riverside; gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside, gonna study war no more. I ain't gonna study war no more, ain't gonna study war no more.

2. Gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside, down by the riverside, down by the riverside; gonna day down my burden, down by the riverside, gonna study war no more. . I ain't gonna study war no more, ain't gonna study war no more.

Opening Hymn no. 725

“God of the Ages, Almighty Hand”

1. God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

2. Thy love divine hath led us in the past; in this free land with thee our lot is cast; be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay, thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

3. From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, be thy strong arm our ever sure defense; thy true religion in our hearts increase; thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

4. Refresh thy people on our toilsome way; lead us from night to never ending day; fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

Prayer Response
Hymn no. 579

“Standing in the Need of Prayer”

Refrain

It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer. It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.

1. Not my brother, not my sister, but 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.

2. Not the preacher, not the teacher, but it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer. Not the preacher, not the teacher, but it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.

3. Not my father, not my mother, but it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer. Not my father, not my mother, but it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.

Closing Hymn no. 721

“My Country, ‘Tis of Thee”

1. My country, ‘tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing; land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims’ pride, from every mountainside let freedom ring.
2. My native country, thee, land of the noble free, thy name I love; I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills; my heart with rapture thrills like that above.
3. Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees sweet freedom’s song; let mortal tongues awake, let all that breathe partake, let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.
4. Our fathers’ God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing; long may our land be bright with freedom’s holy light; protect us by thy might, Great God, our King.