

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Rev. Barbara Papagian, Worship Leader
Online Worship
August 22, 2021

PRELUDE "On Eagle's Wings" – arr. Mark Hayes Adam Peithmann

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Barbara Papagian

INTROIT # 583 "Lead Me, Guide Me"

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: We are pulled in many directions

People: Many duties and tasks seek to lay claim on our lives.

Leader: This day, in this place, let service to God be our choice.

People: This day, in this place, we open our hearts and spirits to God.

Leader: Blessed be the God of creation, who has called us here.

All: Praise be to God who sustains and nurtures our lives.

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, give me patience to handle big and small decisions in different areas of my life. Fill me with divine strength that I may always follow your leading. May I take the path you are showing me even if it seems long. Lord, please slow me down when I rush and teach me how to make decisions calmly. Amen.

HYMN # 6 "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

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 # 306 "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

MUSICAL OFFERING "Here I Am, Lord" Bob Ward, Soloist

SCRIPTURE READING Jeanine Finefrock

Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods.

Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

SERMON

“The Choice is Yours”

Rev. Barbara Papagian

HYMN # 612

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

CLOSING WORDS

BENEDICTION

**May the beauty of God be reflected in your eyes,
The love of God be reflected in your hands,
The wisdom of God be reflected in your words,
And the knowledge of God flow from your heart,
That all might see, and seeing, believe.**

POSTLUDE

“Finale” from Organ Symphony no. 2 – C. M. Widor

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. 583

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray. Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.

Opening Hymn no. 6

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

1. Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation, the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation. With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled: to God all praise and glory.

2. Our God is never far away, but through grief distressing, an ever-present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing. As with a mother’s tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band: to God all praise and glory.

3. Then all my gladsome way along, I sing aloud your praises, that all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises. Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, both soul and body bear your part: to God all praise and glory.

4. Let all who name Christ’s holy name give God all praise and glory; let all who own God’s power proclaim aloud the wondrous story! Cast each idol from its throne, for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone: to God all praise and glory.

Prayer Response Hymn no. 306

“Hear Our Prayer, O Lord”

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord, incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. Amen.

Closing Hymn no. 612

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; be thou forever near me, my master and my friend; I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side; nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

2. O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near; I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear; my foes are ever near me, around me and within; but, Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.

3. O let me hear thee speaking, in accents clear and still, above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self will; O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

4. O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be; and, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; O give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.