

JUNE 28, 2020
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRELUDE — *The Kingdom of God* – Taizé chant

CALL to WORSHIP

One: God is here! So don't let go of all the reasons to rejoice!

All: We will sing a song to the One who fills our lives with joy.

One: God is here! Don't stop lifting your prayers with thanksgiving.

All: We will sing a song to the One who hears our words and our silence.

One: God is here! Don't stop giving your hearts to God!

All: We will sing a song to the One who graces us with a peace we cannot begin to understand. Let us worship God together!

PRAYER of CONFESSION

God of our lives, you call us to always rejoice in you. And we prefer to grumble. You call us to be gentle and humble in heart. But we prefer to boast and to act out our anger and our frustration with undeserving others. You call us not to worry, but worry consumes our hearts and our minds, especially when we feel so out of control. You remind us of your peace that passes understanding. And yet we lack the patience to wait for your peace, and we lack the humility to rest in you alone. God of mercy, we need you more than ever. Come to us now. Forgive our wayward ways. Call us home to the only home we need in you.

(Time for silent prayer and confession.)

PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: Hear the good news: Do not worry; the Lord is near. God hears our prayers with compassion and with abundant, steadfast love. Rejoice, for in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!

SCRIPTURE READING — **Philippians 4:4-9**

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.”

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

AFFIRMATION of FAITH - from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism,

feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus!

INVITATION to GIVE — *Be Thou My Vision* - Irish Ballad

*Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night:
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.*

*Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son:
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.*

*Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always.
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart:
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.*

*High King of Heaven, my victory won;
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'nly Sun.
Heart of my own heart, what'er befall:
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.*

-- Traditional Irish poem

PAUSE for PRAYER

At this time, we invite you to take out a piece of paper and a pen, or talk with the people you are worshipping with today, and answer at least one of the following questions as we prepare to turn to God in prayer.

- 1) How have you known God's JOY this week?
- 2) How have you known God's PEACE this week?
- 3) What can you do in the coming week to "rejoice in the Lord always?" And how can you make this a habit in your life in the weeks and months to come?

POSTLUDE — *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!* - Edward Hayes Plumptre/Arthur Henry Messiter

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Rachel Rhodes – Senior Pastor

Tim Carpenter – Director of Music

Dan Jones – Liturgist

Prelude – Sara Carpenter, piano & voice

Invitation to Give – Sara Curtiss

Postlude – Sara, Carol & Timothy Carpenter; Mark Shockey, piano

Damon Miller – Communications Coordinator

Photos provided by: Erin Aronson, Joan Barley, Drew Hunger,
Dan Jones, Betsy Jurey, Nancy Kernan, Geoff Smith, & Ron Workman