



Traditional Service
The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 17, 2023

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE "Master Tallis' Testament"

Herbert Howells

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;

People: God's steadfast love endures forever!

Leader: God satisfies the thirsty, and fills the hungry with good things.

People: Let those who are wise reflect on the steadfast love of the Lord!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN

#284

O God, What You Ordain is Right

WAS GOTT TUT

1 O God, what You ordain is right,
Your holy will abiding;
I shall be still, whate'er You do,
And follow where You are guiding.
You are my God;
Though dark my road,
You hold me that I shall not fall;
Wherefore to You I leave it all.

2 O God, what You ordain is right;
You never will deceive me.
You lead me by the proper path;
I know You will not leave me.
And take, content,
What You have sent;
Your hand can turn my griefs away,
And patiently I wait Your day.

*Please stand if you are able.

3 O God, what You ordain is right;
Here shall my stand be taken.
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine,
Yet I am not forsaken.
Your watchful care
Is round me there;
You hold me that I shall not fall,
And so to You I leave it all.

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and Loving God, it is so easy for us to fall into the trap of scarcity. We focus our attention on what we do not have; we strive for what others have that we want, and we overlook those who do not have enough. Forgive us, and help us to recognize the abundance of grace that you give to us. Give us the faith to share what we have with others, and to trust in your never-failing grace and love.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Matthew 25:14-2

Jeanne Hunsicker

Leader: The word of the Lord;

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Rev. J.C. Austin

"An Off-Road Faith: The Riskiest Thing You Can Do"

WE RESPOND

*SERMON HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Me

#383

OLIVET

1 My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine:
Now hear me while I pray,
Take all my guilt away,
O let me from this day
Be wholly Thine!

2 May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire;
As Thou hast died for me,
O may my love to Thee
Pure warm, and changeless be,
A living fire!

3 While life's dark maze I tread,
And griefs around me spread,
Be Thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray
From Thee aside.

4 When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll.
Blest Savior, then, in love,
Fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above,
A ransomed soul!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory Here I Am, Lord

Chancel Choir

arr. Anna Laura Page

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save

I, who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go, Lord, if you lead me
I will hold your people in my heart

I, the Lord of snow and rain
I have borne my people's pain
I have wept for love of them They turn away

I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go, Lord, if you lead me
I will hold your people in my heart

I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them
My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go, Lord, if you lead me
I will hold your people in my heart

*Doxology

#592

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*Prayer of Dedication

*SENDING HYMN

#399

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

DUNLAP'S CREEK

1 We walk by faith and not by sight;
No gracious words we hear
From Christ Who spoke as none e'er spoke;
But we believe Him near.

3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
And may our faith abound
To call on You when You are near
And seek where You are found:

2 We may not touch His hands and side,
Nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise we rejoice,
And cry, "My Lord and God!"

4 That, when our life of faith is done,
In realms of clearer light
We may behold You as You are,
With full and endless sight.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Postlude in D

Healey Willan