

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

November 14, 2021
25th Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life.

~ Nelson Mandela

PRELUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Jesus says: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

All: And blessed is the church that serves with the love of God to eradicate systemic poverty.

One: Jesus says: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

All: And blessed is the church that trusts in the grace of Christ to build real community.

One: Jesus says: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

All: And blessed is the church that seeks by the power of the Spirit to dismantle structural racism and all forms of oppression.

One: Blessed are you, O holy, triune God,

All: And blessed is your kingdom being built here on earth.

OPENING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 95:1-7a

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have wandered from your way of truth and life. You call us to share all that we have and work together for the common good, but we hoard up treasures for ourselves and deny others their daily bread. You call us to set the captives free and seek justice for the oppressed, but we live in fear of our neighbors and hide ourselves in familiarity. You call us to walk in newness of life and to be witnesses to the resurrection, but we dwell in the valley of dry bones and keep silent about your saving love. Forgive us, God of grace. Set us free from sin, death and fear so that we may serve you with glad hearts.

(A time of silent confession)

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Hear the good news: God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Hear the teaching of Christ: A new command I give you, that you love one another as I have loved you. The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you!

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

(As we pass the peace, let us not shake hands, but instead use other peaceful gestures.)

HEARING THE WORD

ANTHEM

Story of Our Town

Aaron Copland

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 25:31-46

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Proyecto Faro/Project Lighthouse

Charo Ureña

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY

Prelude in C Major

J. S. Bach

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Sicilienne

G. Faure

Our guest musician today is pianist, Susan Buffington