

Order of Worship July, 24, 2022  
(Proper 12)

*Gathering Music      The Steadfast Love of the Lord      GTG #59*

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases: God's mercies never come to an end.

They are new every morning, new every morning; great is your faithfulness, O Lord, great is your faithfulness.

(Refrain)

Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning, new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be. Refrain

2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

**Welcome**

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

## Call To Worship

L: Let us give thanks and sing praises to God

**C: Whose steadfast love and faithfulness endures forever.**

L: Let us give thanks and sing praises to God

**C: who watches over us, guides us, and will fulfill his purpose for us.**

L: Come, Let us give thanks and sing praises to God.

*Hymn*

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

*GTG #35*

1 Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;

join me in glad adoration!

2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!

Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been  
granted in what he ordaineth?

3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!

All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!

Let the amen sound from his people again;

gladly for aye we adore him.

## PREPARING FOR THE WORD

### Call to Confession

*Liturgist*

The act of confessing our sin is not simply a recitation of our faults and wrongs, but also an opportunity to receive God's mercy and share in that abundant grace. Confident of God's love for us, let us offer our confession.

## **Prayer of Confession**

*(“Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, ‘Hold Fast to What Is Good’.  
Used with permission.)*

**God of all the saints, God of all the sinners, hear our prayer. We would be saintlike – holy, good, patient, loving.**

**But we end up feeling more like sinners – full of failures of morality, selfish, sometimes mean. Perhaps You see us simply as human – beloved, and flawed, and trying, and failing, and succeeding. In all of this, forgive the wrong that we have done, and bless the good we have accomplished. Keep on loving us, and helping us, and molding us more and more into the image of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## **Words of Forgiveness**

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve. Alleluia! Amen.

## *Gloria Patri*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen, amen.**

## **HEARING THE WORD**

### **Prayer of Illumination**

*Liturgist*

**As we are gathered here today, we ask you, our living God, to shower onto us your wisdom and knowledge. We pray that as we listen to your word, we may have the ability to clearly see what God has called us to do. We seek to live to fulfill your purpose. Illuminate our eyes and reveal to us your glory. Amen.**

Then the Lord said, "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know." The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the Lord.[a] Then Abraham approached him and said: "Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare[b] the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?" The Lord said, "If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake." Then Abraham spoke up again: "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes, 28 what if the number of the righteous is five less than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five people?" "If I find forty-five there," he said, "I will not destroy it." Once again he spoke to him, "What if only forty are found there?" He said, "For the sake of forty, I will not do it." Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak. What if only thirty can be found there?" He answered, "I will not do it if I find thirty there." Abraham said, "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, what if only twenty can be found there?" He said, "For the sake of twenty, I will not destroy it." Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?" He answered, "For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it."

**New Testament Reading**

Luke 11: 1-13

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: "'Father,[a]hallowed be your name, your kingdom come.[b]Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.[c] And lead us not into temptation.[d]'" Then Jesus said to them, "Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.' And suppose the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity[e] he will surely get up and give you as much as you need. "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. Which of you fathers, if your son asks for[f] a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

***Hymn******Seek Ye First******GTG #175***

***Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!***

***Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find;  
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!***

You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word  
that proceeds from the mouth of God. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

**Sermon**

*“Is It Worth Your Trouble”*

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**Affirmation of Faith**

*Liturgist*

**We believe in God the creator, who is always creative and invites us to affirm and explore who we are, with all our differences; and who is the source of our faith.**

**We believe in God the Savior revealed in the world as Jesus the Christ who died and is risen, the one Lord of the church. We believe in God the Reconciler, the Holy Spirit, who is always with us bearing witness with our spirits that we are the children of God. We believe that our smallness can never diminish God’s vastness; that our frailties can never overcome God’s will for wholeness; that our sin can never crush God’s power for new life even in the face of death.**

**We believe, and in this belief, we need one another, as a choir needs every voice and every part for the harmony to be complete. We believe – that in the Holy Spirit, in Jesus Christ and in the love of God – we are one!**

(Ian Tozer (1997 UCA Assembly))

**Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer**

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

**Invitation To The Offertory**

*Liturgist*

I invite you to give generously, as we worship God through sharing our gifts, tithes, and offerings.

*Doxology*

*GTG #607*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures high and low.  
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise God, in Jesus fully known:  
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Offertory Prayer**

*Liturgist*

**Lord, you are our strength and our song, you fill our hearts with joy.  
Everything we have belongs to you and we rejoice to give some of your  
abundant gifts back to you. Bless these tithes and offerings we give in  
the spirit of grace and love. Amen.**

*Hymn*

*Will You Come and Follow Me*  
*ONLY verses 1, 2, and 5*

*GTG #726*

**Benediction**

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

**Music**

*Steve Johnson*