

Order of Worship for August 28, 2022
(Proper 17)

Gathering Music

Welcome

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Call To Worship

Psalm 146

Liturgist

Praise the Lord.[a]. Praise the Lord, my soul. I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who remains faithful forever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who give food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the strangers, upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. The Lord will reign forever. . . Praise the Lord.

Hymn

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

GTG #465

1 What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit; O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

2 Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!

3 Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer!

Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Call to Confession

Liturgist

Even as we sing songs of praises we are aware of our failings, and the ways we turn from God's Word. Our hope only returns when we make a confession of our sins.

Prayer of Confession

Liturgist

Great and wonderful God, too often we look to be fed in all the wrong places and yet we are not satisfied. We confess our sin in desiring the things of this world, instead of turning to the fruits of Word for the food which satisfies. We pray that you forgive us for this grievous sin. Feed us instead, O God, with the spiritual food that will make our souls grow in faith, and help us to be satisfied. May we listen to your word, be touched by your Spirit, and inspired by the power of your presence among us. For this, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Barbara Macfie

God knows our tendency to sin; our constant struggle to be faithful people. And God forgives all our sinful tendencies in the hope of our constant repentance. This is the good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

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

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find wisdom, and in your will discover your peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 2: 4 – 13

Liturgist

Hear the word of the Lord, you descendants of Jacob, all you clans of Israel. This is what the Lord says: “What fault did your ancestors find in me, that they strayed so far from me? They followed worthless idols and became worthless themselves.

They did not ask, ‘Where is the Lord, who brought us up out of Egypt and led us through the barren wilderness, through a land of deserts and ravines, a land of drought and utter darkness, a land where no one travels and no one lives?’ I brought you into a fertile land to eat its fruit and rich produce. But you came and defiled my land and made my inheritance detestable. The priests did not ask,

‘Where is the Lord?’ Those who deal with the law did not know me, the leaders rebelled against me. The prophets prophesied by Baal, following worthless idols. “Therefore I bring charges against you again,” declares the Lord. “And I will bring charges against your children’s children. Cross over to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar[a] and observe closely; see if there has ever been anything like this: Has a nation ever changed its gods? (Yet they are not gods at all.). But my people have exchanged their glorious God for worthless idols. Be appalled at this, you heavens, and shudder with great horror,” declares the Lord. “My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living

water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

Gospel Reading

Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering. Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." [a]. So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?" [b] Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Hymn

God Welcomes All

GTG #399

***God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.***

Sermon

"What Is Our Relationship With God"

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith (Celtic Affirmation)

Rev. Barbara Macfie

We believe in God, whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom. Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and doubtful, in God we trust; and, in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the earth and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness, to live in freedom of forgiveness and the power of the spirit of love, and the company of the faithful so to be the church, for the glory of God. Amen.

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

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Invitation To The Offertory

Liturgist

Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

Doxology

GTG #606

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.

Offertory Prayer

Liturgist

God of new life, out of the abundance of our lives we offer these gifts to you. Through your blessing and our willingness to share, may these offerings become a source for hope and love in this church family, and in the community beyond us, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

GTG #761

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace
We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing side by side and friend with friend
Equal partners in our caring to fulfil God's chosen end

Christ's example Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth
Let us follow never faltering reconciling folk on earth
Men and women richer, poorer all God's people young and old
Blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission in a small or global sense
Help us bear each other's burdens breaking down each wall or fence
Words of comfort words of vision words of challenge said with care
Bring new power and strength for action make us colleagues free and fair

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife
Make us partners in our living our compassion to increase
Messengers of faith thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

Benediction

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Postlude

Steve Johnson