



August 8, 2021 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost Outdoor Worship 10:00 am First time here? We are happy to have you visit with us today and hope that your worship experience is blessed. Please pick up a free visitor bag.Children with you? Activity materials for young worshipers are on the back tables. Assistance needed? The ushers have large print bulletins.

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*One asterisk signifies the congregation stands if able. The bold type is spoken by the congregation.

PRELUDE

"Shepherd Me, O God"

Marty Haugen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(If you are a visitor, have a prayer request, or want to update your contact info, please fill out the connect card and place it in a basket by the doors.)

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 121)

One: We look not to the mountains or valleys, even heaven or earth,

<u>All:</u> For God is found among us.

One: Wherever two or three are gathered in Christ's name,

<u>*All:*</u> God is here among us.

One: Come, let us worship the God of Creation,

the God of People, the God of Community.

<u>*All:*</u> Let us follow Jesus, for Jesus is The Way.

Let us worship together in faith!

*HYMN #69

"Here I am, Lord"

Daniel L. Schutte

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? [Chorus] 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 words to them. Whom shall I send? **[Chorus]**

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? **[Chorus]**

*CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

<u>One</u>: O Lord our God, we come to you, seeking to rise up from the depths and agony of despair. Please listen, our Saving God, we need your help and blessing.

<u>*All:*</u> Lord, through the tenderness of your mercy towards us we have learned to worship you—and to revere your Holy Name; therefore, we place our entire trust and hope in you, our Trustworthy God.

<u>One</u>: We gather to offer you our thanks, for we know that you offer us your unfailing love and mercy that is beyond our understanding.

All: You know our longing for forgiveness, and you offer us your presence – which blesses us from God's overflowing store of mercy, hope, freedom and joy. Amen.

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE (from Psalm 130) One: If God kept track of all our mistakes—the harmful things we say and do, the callous way we sometimes treat the people around us, the selfishness that puts our needs ahead of the needs of othersif God kept track, what chance would we have? But with unfailing love, God offers us forgiveness complete forgiveness that erases our sins completely, and allows us to begin again. So be at peace - your sins are forgiven! All: Alleluia! Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Gloria Patri CALL FOR OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION Lindsay Olsen

OFFERTORY

"Come Sunday"

Duke Ellington

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION HYMN #286 "Breathe on Me Breath of God" Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew, that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 121 I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and for evermore.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Lindsay Olsen

by Rob Yeager Performed by Steve Yeager

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word! Thanks be to God!

SERMON	"I Love To Tell The Story"	Carole Michel
My shepherd wi Jehovah is his na In pastures fresh beside the living He brings my wa when I forsake h	n he makes me feed, g stream. andering spirit back his ways, or his mercy's sake,	Isaac Watts, 1719

When I walk through the shades of death your presence is my stay; one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away. Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread; my cup with blessings overflows; your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days; O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise. There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come; no more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

<u>One</u>: Gracious and loving God, as unique as we all are, so are our stories. Each story is intricately woven with the fine details of life, seasoned with memories – some pleasant, others not so pleasant. In every detail, every memory, every element of our story, you are present. As we share our faith, we witness to your ever-present, ever-faithful, ever-loving accompaniment on our journey. Help us, Lord, to share our faith stories in ways and with people who might come to know you all the more as a result of our witnessing. Show us those with whom you would like us to connect. Thank you for Carole and Gene today and for those you have sent to share their stories with us personally as friends and neighbors. Together, all our stories are a part of your story, for which we are grateful.

Today we lift up to you those who are suffering in this pandemic. Heal them where they can be healed by your loving power. Help us do what we can for those in need.....

<u>*All:*</u> Lord, hear our prayer.

<u>One</u>: We pray for the hospital workers who are beyond tired and weary. For the people who clean the patient rooms, the cooks in the kitchen, the security guards, and all who provide patient care. Help them stay healthy and keep up their spirits in these depressing days.

<u>*All:*</u> Lord, hear our prayer.

<u>One</u>: We are only human. Help us be humble and do all we can to care for one another with no agendas or expectations except the others' best interest in mind. Guide us through these confusing times. Help us see where your light keeps shining with hope and healing.

<u>*All:*</u> Lord, hear our prayer.

<u>One</u>: Empower us to be grateful for the many blessings we have been given in this country of vast resources. Help our leaders be wise, strong and confident in the decisions they make for all our benefit.

<u>*All:*</u> Lord, hear our prayer as we pray the way you taught us saying:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

<u>*All:*</u> 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.

*HYMN #488 "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry" John C. Ylvisaker I was there to hear your borning cry; I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold. I was there when you were but a child with a faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on. You were raised to praise the living Lord to whom you now belong. If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun. In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young, I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun. When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes, I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry; I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"In the Day of the Lord"

M. D. Ridge



Flowers are donated by Bill and Nancy Morgan in honor of Steve and Brooke's wedding on August 6, 2021.

Guest Preacher: *Carole Michel* Pastor: *Rev. Dr. Cindy Alloway* Liturgist: *Lindsay Olsen* Music: *Myles Ellis, Steve Yeager* Technology: *Norm Smith, Phil Goede, Bajun Mavalwalla, Nico Wycoff*

References: Congregational Prayer written by Joan Stott, and posted on **The Timeless Psalms**. If any part of these Prayers and/or Meditations is used in shared worship, please provide the following acknowledgement: © 2011 Joan Stott – 'The Timeless Psalms' RCL Psalms Year A.

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