

Order of Worship for July 18, 2021

Gathering

Welcome

Rev. Dave Moore
Lead Pastor

The FEED

Prayer of Preparation

Eternal God, open our eyes to see your hand at work in the splendor of creation and in the beauty of human life. Touched by your hand, our world is holy. Help us to cherish the gifts that surround us, to share our blessings with our sisters and brothers, and to experience the joy of life in your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. Book of Common Worship

Prelude

“Chorale Prelude on LASST UNS ERFREUEN”
Dr. Wm. Sullivan, organist

Rowley

Praising

*Prayer of Invocation

Rev. Lynn Packwood
Minister of Music and Pastoral Care

*Call to Worship

Matthew 8:11; Isaiah 56:3; Galatians 3:26-28

Leader: Jesus taught that “many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven”

People: Isaiah wrote in God’s word: “My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”

Leader: And Paul teaches that “in Christ Jesus you are all children of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

People: There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for we are all one in Christ Jesus.

All: We praise you now, O Lord, in many voices and many places, but in one spirit.

*Hymn No. 356

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

* Please stand, in body or in spirit!

Confessing

Call to Confession

Confession of Sin

O God, your will is that all your children should be one in Christ. We pray for the unity of your church. Pardon all our pride and our lack of faith, of understanding and of charity, which are the causes of our divisions. Deliver us from our narrow-mindedness, from our bitterness, from our prejudices. Save us from considering as normal that which is a scandal to the world and an offense to your love.

Teach us to recognize the gifts of grace among all who call upon you and confess faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Pardon

based on I Peter 2:9-10

Leader: You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

People: Once we were not a people, but now we are God's people; once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy.

Leader: People of God, all of us together have received God's mercy in Christ. In Christ we are forgiven, redeemed, and made to be a community united in faith.

People: Thanks be to God.

Proclaiming

*Scripture Reading

Acts 10: 1-4, 9-16, 19-20, 23-24, 34-48

A devout man who feared God with all his household, gave alms generously to the people, and prayed continually to God. About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God come in and say to him, "Cornelius." And he stared at him in terror and said, "What is it, Lord?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God.

The next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. And he became hungry and wanted something to eat, but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance and saw the heavens opened and something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners upon the earth. In it were all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air. And there came a voice to him: "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." But Peter said, "By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean." And the voice came to him again a second time, "What God has made clean, do not call common." This happened three times, and the thing was taken up at once to heaven.

And while Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you. Rise and go down and accompany them without hesitation, for I have sent them." So he invited them in to be his guests. The next day he rose and went away with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him. And on the following day they entered Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends.

So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

***Scripture Response**

Psalm 18:30

Leader: Our God—his way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true;

People: He is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.

Sermon Series: The Book of Acts

Message: “Good News for Outsiders”

Rev. Moore

Responding

***Hymn No. 520**

“’Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”

TRUST IN JESUS

Prayers of the People and The 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.

A Word about Stewardship

Rev. Lynn Packwood
Minister of Music and Pastoral Care

Musical Meditation

“Meditation (Safe in the Arms of Jesus)”

Diggle

Dr. Wm. Sullivan

Sending

***Hymn No. 130**

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

AZMON

***Benediction**

Rev. Moore

Postlude

“Triumph Song from ‘Heroic Suite’”

Rowley

Dr. Wm. Sullivan, organist

**The Sanctuary flowers are given in loving memory of Craig Nelson.
From Lois Nelson and family.**

Floral Arranger: Susan Stafford

Bonhomme Mission Partners:

International:

Comfort Foundation – Russia
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Local:

The Freedom School
(Restore STL)
The Haven of Grace
Inside Out Prison Ministry
(Restore STL)
Isaiah 58
Oasis International Ministries
Restore St. Louis

Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?"

Acts 8:35-36