

Sunday, November 8th

Prelude: Praise Him! Praise Him! – arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: Heirs of the covenant, come; let us present ourselves before the Lord.

People: We gather to worship the Holy One, to incline our hearts to the one true God.

Leader: Family of faith, come; choose this day: Whom will you serve?

People: As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

Hymn # 12 – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unshaking, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might: Thy justice, like mountains high soaring above; thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small. In all life thou livest, the true life of all. We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light. Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight. All praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

“Keep awake,” you tell us, urging us to watch with expectant hope as we wait for you to reveal yourself in our midst. But, Lord, we grow tired of looking for signs of your presence among us. We grow weary from a steady diet of distressing news and convince ourselves that you are still far off. We are careless with the tasks you expect of us and, so, are not prepared to encounter you. Forgive us for losing heart and losing hope. Sustain us in faith, we pray, and keep us ever watchful so that we might be ready to greet you with joy. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Special Music: His Eye Is On the Sparrow/ All I Ever Have to Be

Dia Sawyer, soprano and Ken Wadley, keyboard

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Amos 5:18-24

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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Sermon: “What is Acceptable to God”

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third
day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the
Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Hymn # 761 – Called as Partners in Christ’s Service

*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 fulfill 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.*

Prayers of the People

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.**

Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response: Hymn #726 – Will You Come and Follow Me, verse 5

*Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be
the same. In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I’ll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.*

Postlude: My Shepherd Will Supply My Need – arr. Mary Moorehead

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761

1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life

we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
 help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 that sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,

e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
 blend-ing hu-man skills to-gether gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
 bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.

This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.