



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 11, 2021

THOUGHTS OF PREPARATION

God did not create universals, genus, and species, or anything that needed to come back again and again to get it right (reincarnation), but only specific and unique incarnations of the Eternal Mystery—each one chosen, loved, and preserved in existence as itself—by being itself.

And this is the glory of God! -- Richard Rohr, Immortal Diamond

Welcome

Prelude

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

(Dobin Park - Piano, Michael Sullivan - Organ)

Tower Bell

Call to Worship (Responsive)

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it!

*From the east to the west, from the north to the south,
God's Spirit moves across the face of the earth.*

From the east to the west, from the north to the south,

*we gather together, united by God's Spirit, to celebrate God's
glory and proclaim His praise!*

“Long before He laid down earth's foundations, God had us in mind,
had settled on us as the focus of His love,

to be made whole and holy by His love.

Long, long ago He decided to adopt us into His family through Christ.

Let's give thanks and worship God together!

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (based on Psalm 25:1-4)

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. I put my trust in You, O God,

*do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over
me.*

Do not let those who wait for You be put to shame; let those be ashamed
who neglect Your faithfulness, and who act with evil intent.

Teach me Your ways, O God and guide me in Your paths.

We bring to mind these things for which lament— for willfully acting with less than good intentions, for abusing Your faithfulness by our failure to live faith-full lives.

Forgive us, O God—cleanse our hearts and minds of all that prevents us from loving You and loving our neighbor.

May our lives be marked by faith active in love as we watch and wait for your breaking into our world once more.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen (Silence is kept)

Assurance of Pardon

It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone. In Christ we are whole, free and loved completely!

Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

(Creatorex)

**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.**

Scripture Lesson

From the Hebrew Bible: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 11-15

6 David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. ² David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the LORD of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim. ³ They carried the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio,^[a] the sons of Abinadab, were driving the

new cart ⁴ with the ark of God;^[b] and Ahio^[c] went in front of the ark. ⁵ David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the LORD with all their might, with songs^[d] and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals

¹¹ The ark of the LORD remained in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite three months; and the LORD blessed Obed-edom and all his household.

¹² It was told King David, "The LORD has blessed the household of Obed-edom and all that belongs to him, because of the ark of God." So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing; ¹³ and when those who bore the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. ¹⁴ David danced before the LORD with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. ¹⁵ So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

Anthem

"A Jubilant Song"

(Allen Pote)

Sing to the Lord a jubilant song.
Rejoice and sing, and let the earth be glad,
Let the heavens be filled with joy, and a jubilant song.
Sing alleluia to the Lord, Alleluia!
Tell of His salvation from day to day.
Shout His marvelous works among the people,
For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised!
Lord you have been our refuge from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were made, or the land and the sea were born,
From age to age You are God, and we pray for the coming of Your kingdom.
We shall rejoice, we shall be glad all the days of our lives.

Scripture Lesson From the New Testament: “Letters:” Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ^[a] before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance,^[b] having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this^[c] is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of his glory.

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Offertory Invitation

David offered his praise with the people; Herod offered his daughter anything she wanted -- both with mixed intentions. Jesus offered bread and life to the multitudes. Let us give like Jesus: trusting God, without mixed motive, only to please God and help others in his name!

Offertory

“He Loved Me”

(Tom Fettke)

He chose me before the world was known.

He chose me to be His very own.

He made me, then let me find my way

I chose to move away.

He loved me when hope had taken wing.

He loved me when I lost everything.

He bought me, redemption's work was done.

through Jesus Christ His son.

What shall separate me from the love of God?

Should dreams of tomorrow, pain, or sorrow?

Can the need of food or earthly possessions,

the threat of war or man's oppression?

In all these things, victory is our reward through

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Of this I am sure, that neither death, nor life, nor
Angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor
things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any creature
shall separate me from the love of God, through Jesus
Christ our Lord.

Scripture Lesson

Gospel Lesson: Mark 6:14-29

¹⁴ King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' ^[a] name had become known. Some were ^[b] saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵ But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶ But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷ For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod ^[c] had married her. ¹⁸ For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹ And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰ for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; ^[d] and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹ But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²² When his daughter Herodias ^[e] came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³ And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴ She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵ Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶ The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷ Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's ^[f] head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸ brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹ When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb

Sermon “A Tale of Two Dances, Two Feasts, and One Path”
Rev. Barry Bordenkircher

Hymn #371 “*Our Father, We Have Wandered*” (*Passion Chorale*)
(*see next page*)

Benediction

Postlude “*Jubilate Deo*” (*Benoit*)

Today’s Worship Leaders:

Preaching Today: Rev. Barry Bordenkircher

Liturgist: Laura Haas

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Choral Director: Dobin Park

Thanks to all the musicians and to Michael Sullivan and Dobin Park for assisting with filming and to Dobin Park for film editing.

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“Our Father, We Have Wandered” (Passion Chorale)

Our Father, we have wandered
And hidden from your face;
In foolishness have squandered
Your legacy of grace.
But now, in exile dwelling,
We rise with fear and shame,
As distant but compelling,
We hear you call our name.

O Lord of all the living,
Both banished and restored,
Compassionate, forgiving
And ever caring Lord,
Grant now that our transgressing,
Our faithlessness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in blessing,
In pardon and in peace.