



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 7, 2021

Thoughts of Preparation

Faith does not mean believing in the literal-factuality of the stories regardless of how improbable they seem. Rather, faith is about something far more important. It is about our relationship with God—about centering in God, being loyal (faithful) to God, and about trusting in God. Faith is the opposite of hubris and anxiety.

-- Marcus J. Borg, *Convictions: How I Learned What Matters Most*

Welcome

Prelude

“Amazing Grace”

(arr. By Joel Raney)

Dobin Park - Piano

Tower Bell

***Responsive Call to Worship**

We come together in this hour in a wider search for truth and purpose.

*We come seeking wisdom greater than any human wisdom,
seeking strength that does not flow from politics, power, or
wealth -- these are but idols that deceive us in the quest for truth.*

In this quest, may we greet one another with open hearts and minds;

*may we inspire each other to consider new questions and seek
deeper meaning; and cultivate both wisdom and compassion.*

In this quest, let us learn to trust God's sacred rhythms, timeless and dependable.

*Let us help each other take “leaps of faith” that we fear to take
by ourselves.*

Let us draw down and enter the depths of God's indwelling fire;

*Let us fall into grace, not striving, or grasping--just longing,
receptive, and alive!*

Let all who enter this sacred place find divine comfort and peace in this community.

*And let us never rest until this is our daily bread and reason for
being!*

***Autumn Prayer of Adoration (responsive)**

O sacred season of autumn, be our teacher, for we wish to learn the virtue of contentment.

As we gaze upon your full-colored beauty, we sense all about you an at-homeness with your amber riches. You are the season of retirement, of full barns and harvested fields.

The cycle of growth has ceased, and the busy work of giving life is now completed.

We sense in you no regrets: you've lived a full life.

We live in a society that is ever-restless, always eager for more mountains to climb, seeking happiness through more and more possessions. As children of our culture, we are seldom truly at peace with what we have.

Teach us to take stock of what we have given and received; may we know that it's enough, that our striving can cease in the abundance of God's grace.

May we know the contentment that allows the totality of our energies to come to full flower. May we know that, like you, I am rich beyond measure.

As you, O Autumn, take pleasure in your great bounty, let us also take delight in the abundance of the simple things of life, which are the true sources of joy.

With the golden glow of peaceful contentment may we truly appreciate this autumn day.

May our hearts overflow with your Creator's abundance and peace. 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 Psalter: Psalm 146 (Good News Translation)

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, my soul! I will praise him as long as I live; I will sing to my God all my life. Don't put your trust in human leaders; no human being can save you. When they die, they return to the dust; on that day all their plans come to an end. Happy are those who have the God of Jacob to help them and who depend on the Lord their God, the Creator of heaven, earth, and sea, and all that is in them. He always keeps his promises; he judges in favor of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free and gives sight to the blind. He lifts those who have fallen; he loves his righteous people. He protects the strangers who live in our land; He helps widows and orphans, but takes the wicked to their ruin. The Lord is king forever. Your God, O Zion, will reign for all time. Praise the Lord!

Anthem

"In My Father's House

(By Lani Smith)

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you.
Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.
In my Father's house are many mansions.
If it were not so I would have told you;
I go to prepare a place for you.

These are the words He spoke in love to you and me.
This is the promise He made, from death to set us free.
He said that He would come again And with Him we would go,
And where He went and the way He went,
We would surely know.

These are the words He spoke to help us find our way.
This is the bond that He gave to hold us through the day.
The thoughts He shares with us this night shall evermore remain, to comfort
us, and to guide us on, and our hope sustain.

Scripture Lesson From the New Testament Letters: Galatians 3:10-14

All those who rely on the works of the Law are under a curse, because it is written, Everyone is cursed who does not keep on doing all the things that have been written in the Law scroll. But since no one is made righteous by the Law as far as God is concerned, it is clear that the righteous one will live on the basis of faith. The Law isn't based on faith; rather, the one doing these things will live by them. Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law by becoming a curse for us— because it is written, Everyone who is hung on a tree is cursed. He redeemed us so that the blessing of Abraham would come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, and that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Gathering Together in Prayer **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

A Stewardship Moment

Rev. Barry Bordenkircher

Offertory

“I Am Light, I Am Life, I Am Love” (By Mary McDonald)

At this table come and dine, feast on bread, partake the wine
Do this in remembrance of me.
This my body and my blood, for the weary soul outpoured.
Do this in remembrance of me.
I was given for you.
Come and taste of the Father’s love.
As you drink from the cup, remember the blood shed for you.
I am Light, I am Life, I am Love.
At this table, come and dine, feast on bread, partake the wine.
Do this in remembrance of me.
was given for you.
Come and taste of the Father’s love.
As you drink from the cup, remember the blood shed for you.
I am light, I am life, I am love.

Scripture Lesson**From the Gospels: Mark 12:38-44**

As he taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

Sermon

“Faith vs. Belief...and What is Needed Today”

Rev. Barry Bordenkircher

***We Gather At The Lord's Table -- Sacrament of Holy Communion**

The Invitation

Come, all you who are loved by God, come, and be fed with the food that He gives freely; Come, and quench your thirst from the Waters of Life, and the fruit of the vine, with the goodness of your Creator.

***The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of Your glory! Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the
highest!.*

Recollection and Consecration of Elements

Sharing the Elements

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Thank You, God, for this meal, and for the way it feeds our souls, changes our hearts, and unites us with You. We go now to live as followers of Christ, as people of compassion, as those who seek to serve and heal the world. Amen.

Hymn #522

“Shall We Gather at the River” (Hanson Place)

(see last page)

***Benediction**

Postlude

“Jubilate Deo”

(Benoit)

Worship Notes

“Autumn Prayer of Adoration” is adapted from Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim: A Personal Manual for Prayer and Ritual, by Fr. Edward Hays (Ave Maria Press. Kindle Edition)

Today’s Worship Leaders:

Preaching Today: Rev. Barry Bordenkircher

Liturgist: Chuck Hawkins

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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Shall We Gather at the River 522

1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have
 2 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - ery bur - den
 3 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will

trod, with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing
 down; grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro -
 cease; soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the

Refrain

by the throne of God? Yes, we'll gath - er at the
 vide a robe and crown.
 mel - o - dy of peace.

riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.