



Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Order for Worship | October 18, 2020 | God is still speaking

Congregational responses are in bold, • means "please rise in body or spirit"



PRELUDE & INTRODUCTIONS

Ein Feste Burg
Luther; arr. Bach

Jeremy Hill

WELCOME

Deacon Glenn Tippy

• OPENING HYMN

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing
See page 6

OPENING PRAYER

Jan Richardson

You who created them
and called them good:
bless again these creatures
who come to us
as a blessing
fashioned of fur
or feather
or fin,
formed of flesh
that breathes with
your own breath,
that you have made
from sheer delight,
that you have given
in dazzling variety.

Bless them
who curl themselves
around our hearts,
who twine themselves
through our days,
who companion us
in our labor,
who call us
to come and play.

Bless them
who will never be
entirely tamed
and so remind us
that you love

what is wild,
that you rejoice
in what lives close
to the earth,
that your heart beats
in the heart of these creatures
you have entrusted
to our care.

WE SOUND THE BELL

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Thom Shuman

**Great Lover of Justice, hear our prayers:
called to treat all people equally,
we take sides and pick favorites;
chosen to be your children,
we arrogantly assume others are not so honored;
challenged to be examples of faith,
we reveal our worst natures to our families and friends.**

Forgive us, Giver of Rest. Enable us to stop putting you to the test, so we can open our hearts to your healing touch of compassion and hope. As Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, has given all for us, may we give ourselves to you - confidently, completely, faithfully.

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news: the One who created goodness and beauty is also the One who shows no partiality, but offers grace and peace to all.

God has heard our prayers and done the very thing we asked - forgiven us, healed us, restored us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

WE PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ANTHEM

Gonna Rise Up Early in the Morning
Ray, Calloway

First Church Senior
Virtual Choir

CELEBRATION OF GRATITUDE

“If the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough.”

-Meister Eckhart

As we name the abundant blessings of our lives (anniversaries, birthdays, clean-and-sober milestones, and many more!), we offer a gratitude gift in any amount, so that the blessings we have received from God may be multiplied and shared with all who long to experience God’s extravagant welcome in this church and beyond.

A MESSAGE FOR ALL CHILDREN OF GOD

*Go now in peace! Go now in peace!
May the love of God surround you
Everywhere, everywhere you may go!*

SHARING OUR SACRED STORY

Reader: Friends, hear what the Spirit is saying to the church today.

MATTHEW 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Reader: This is the story of life for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

The Rev. Emily C. Goodnow

•HYMN

They'll Know We Are Christians
See page 7

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 sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever.

Amen.

AN OFFERING OF LOVE AND PROMISE

OFFERTORY

Wo soll ich fliehen hin
Bach

Jeremy Hill

• WORDS OF THANKSGIVING

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that Love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Loving and Holy God; pour out Your blessing on these gifts offered to You in love and meant to ensure the continuation of the work of Your disciples through this church. Guide us and shape us as servants of love; using these gifts to make our church and your world even more kind, loving and welcoming for all. Amen

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Schmücke Dich
Crüger; arr. Bach

Jeremy Hill

SERVICE CREDITS: Blessing of the Animals by Jan Richardson and published on her website <https://paintedprayerbook.com>.
Prayer of Forgiveness by Thom Shuman and posted on his website <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com>.



How to be in touch

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Calendar of Events

Each event is hyperlinked to the zoom meeting link, except for the livestreamed events, which links to our Online Worship page on our website.

Today, Sunday, October 18

- ♥ [Livestreamed Worship, 10 am](#)
- ♥ [Virtual Coffee Hour, 11:15 am](#)
- ♥ Deacons Meeting, 12:30 pm

Tuesday, October 20

- ♥ Staff meeting, 9:30 am
- ♥ [Prayer Group Online, 1:30 pm](#)
- ♥ [Leadership Meeting, 3:15 pm](#)

Wednesday, October 21

- ♥ [Tea time with Rev. Emily, 11 am](#)



Descant

4 To you, God, day af-ter day, earth in

Unison

1 To you, O God, all crea-tures sing, and all cre - a - tion, ev - ery-
2 Your wind that blows the tem-pest by, your clouds that sail a - cross the
3 Your flow-ing wa - ters, crys - tal clear, make mel - o - dies for you to
4 To you, O God, day af - ter day, your plan - et earth in ev - ery

ev-ery way sings your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! As fruit, fra - grant

(Harmony) *(Unison)*

thing sings your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! Your burn-ing sun with gold-en
sky sing your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! Your morn-ing ris - es with a
hear, sing your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! Your fire, . . . boun-ti - ful and
way, sings your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia, As sa - vory fruit and fra-grant

flower show forth glo - ry and power, sing - ing prais - es, al-le -

(Harmony)

beam, your sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam sing your prais-es,
song, and lights of eve - ning sing a - long, sing your prais-es, al-le -
bright, re - mem - bering your warmth and light, sings your prais-es,
flower show forth your glo - ry and your power, sing - ing prais-es,

lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

(Unison)

lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

429 They'll Know We Are Christians

By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another. John 13:35

Unison

1. We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord.
2. We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand.
3. We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side.
4. All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come.

We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord.
We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand.
We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side.
And all praise to Christ Je - sus, His on - ly Son.

And we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored.
And to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
And we'll guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save each one's pride.
And all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one.

♩ *Refrain*

And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our love.

Yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

TEXT: Peter Scholtes; based on John 13:35

MUSIC: Peter Scholtes

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ST. BRENDAN'S

Irregular meter