

The Season of Creation, Week 2, September 18, 2022

WORSHIP SERVICE

Prelude

“In Nomine”

by John Bull

Opening Hymn #580, *God who stretched the spangled heavens*

The Hymnal 1982

The Collect

Mysterious God, whose imagination and desire embrace all: We seek to discern you in the interplay of forces, in the order and the chaos of the universe, and in the complexities of every living system. Give us grace to honor your goodness in what we know and in what we do not know, in the world’s harmonies and turbulence, and in its promise and change. For you are in, through, and beyond all that is: one God, made known to us in Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit, our inspiration and guide. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Hebrew Bible: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick. Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land: “Is the Lord not in Zion? Is her King not in her?” (“Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?”) “The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.” For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt, I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me. Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

Psalm 79:1-9

¹O God, the nations have come into your inheritance; they have defiled your holy temple; they have laid Jerusalem in ruins.

²They have given the bodies of your servants to the birds of the air for food, the flesh of your faithful to the wild animals of the earth.

³They have poured out their blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them.

⁴We have become a taunt to our neighbors, mocked and derided by those around us.

⁵How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever? Will your jealous wrath burn like fire?

⁶Pour out your anger on the nations that do not know you, and on the kingdoms that do not call on your name.

⁷For they have devoured Jacob and laid waste his habitation.

⁸Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low.

⁹Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake.

A Reading from the New Testament: 1 Timothy 2: 1-7

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Gospel Hymn #469 *There's a wideness in God's mercy*

The Hymnal 1982

The Holy Gospel: Luke 16: 1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Anthem "Jesu, Lead my Footsteps Ever" by J.S. Bach

Jesu lead my footsteps ever
Ever all my senses guide

From all ills my doings sever
Pull all else than thee aside

Jesu let thy grace attend me
From all evil e'er defend me

Prayers of the People

Prayer List

Bobby; Charles; Kellan; Pat; Mackenzie; Marcella; Tim; Sam;
Matthew; Sally; Antonia; Al; Alex; Virginia & Jamil; Ed; Hannah;
Paul & Faith; Mike; David; Sarah; Will; Erin; Roger, Dan &
Maureen; Jenny & Matt; Adam; Rich, Nancy & Jonathan;
Celeste; Joan L and Elizabeth; Ellie, Perry; Jim; and Isabel.

Offertory Hymn #380 *From all that dwell below the skies*

The Hymnal 1982

Music at Communion #330 *Therefore we before thee*

The Hymnal 1982

Closing Hymn #568 *Father, all loving*

The Hymnal 1982

Postlude

“Prelude and Fugue in C”

by J.S. Bach

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Celebrant: The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson

Deacon: The Rev. Corey Walmer

Chalice Bearer: Ian-Meredythe Lindsey

Lector: Harriet Davis

Ushers: Dennis & Lisa Fitzgibbons

Altar Guild: Beth LaSalle, Mary Ann Hodsdon

Flower Arranger: Imelda Schaefer

A/V: Pal Covie

Bread Baker: Peter Sillin

Counters: Susie Soule, Dennis Fitzgibbons

Lawn Care: John Duncan

VPOW: Lu Tingley

Coffee Hour: Jamie & Joe Michaud