

Worship Guide
Tabernacle United Methodist Church
30 May 2021

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

The wisdom of this age expects assertiveness from the dominant;

All: God's wisdom inspires boldness in those whose position seems weak.

Commonly, attention is given to the wealthy to lead;

All: God's heart listens to the desires of the poor.

The prudence of humanity seeks safety by investing in weapons;

All: God's bulwark against chaos emerges from the mouths of babes.

What impresses human beings will pass away;

All: Our God looks at the heart and establishes love.

SINGING OUR FAITH

Here I Am, Lord (#593)

I, the Lord of sea and sky

I have heard my people cry

All who dwell in dark and sin

My hand will save

I who made the stars of night

I will make their darkness bright

Who will bear my light to them?

Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord Is it I, Lord?

I have heard You calling in the night

I will go, Lord If You lead me

I will hold Your people in my heart

I, the Lord of wind and flame

I will tend the poor and lame

I will set a feast for them

My hand will save

Finest bread I will provide

'Til their hearts be satisfied

I will give my life to them

Whom shall I send?

Refrain

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Acts 4:23-31

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Of the Father's Love Begotten," Words: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius
Translated by H. W. Baker Music: Medieval plainchant - Divine Mysterium
Sung by Beth Duhr-Ramirez

PRAYERS OF SEEKING & BEING FOUND

All: Gracious God, bless us with the discipline to continue our seeking not because we can expect to find, create, or control you, but because the practices of seeking may awaken in us the sense to recognize you, the imagination to be held by you, and the receptiveness to being blessed by you.

(Personal Prayer Time)

Hear the Good News: God yearns not only to encounter us, but to bless us more abundantly than we could now ask for or imagine. May oppressions lose their power over us; may our mistakes cease to define us, may the peace of Christ release us from all fear.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Ongoing Prayer Requests:

Matt, Lou A, Deb B, Jeff C, Richard C, Andy C, Linda G, David G, Barbara H, Danielle K, Tiernan K, Evy S, Cindy S, Sharon & Ron Q, Joe, Barbara G.

This Week's Requests:

Surely the Presence

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.
I can hear the brush of angel's wings, I see glory on each face.
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.*

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

(O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos,
Focus your light within us – make it useful:
Create your reign of unity now -
Your one desire then acts with ours,
as in all light, so in all forms.
Grant what we need each day in bread and insight.
Loose the cords of mistakes binding us,
as we loose the strands we hold of others' guilt.
Don't let surface things delude us,
But free us from what holds us back.
From you is born all ruling will,
the power and the life to do,
the song that beautifies all,
from age to age it renews.

Truly – power to these statements – may they be the ground from which all my actions grow: Amen.

*“Prayers of the Cosmos: Reflections on the Original Meaning of Jesus's Words”
translated by Neil Douglas-Klotz*

A CELEBRATION OF GIVING

MESSAGE

Rev. Harold Wheat

SINGING OUR FAITH

This is My Song (#437)

*This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine;
this is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine:
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.*

*My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;
but other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine:
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.*

BENEDICTION