

May 17, 2020

10:30 Worship

"Faithful Paul"

** indicates those who are comfortably able may stand*

*"...Come and hear, all who know and respect God,
And I will tell what God has done for me..."*

-Psalm 66:16

Gathering Music

Amy Crousore

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Theme in G and Variations 7 & 8"

Amy Crousore
WA Mozart

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 66)

Judi Privitt

O God, how awesome are your deeds!

O God, how glorious is Your Name!

Make a joyful noise to God, people of faith!

Sing the glory of God's Holy Name!

Your deeds are awesome, your grace overflowing!

All the earth sings praises to You; praises to Your Holy Name!

Come and see what God has done!

God is awesome in deeds among mortals!

You transformed the sea into dry land; That we may pass through to Salvation!

You lead us through fire and water and bring us out to a spacious place!

Let all the people shout blessings to God!

Let God's praises be heard!

Come, let us worship God!

*Opening Hymn

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

#43

*Opening Prayer

Judi Privitt

God of love, we live in chaotic and confusing times. Other gods assail us with temptations; gods of greed, ignorance, narcissism, nationalism and fear. In these turbulent times, we turn to you for guidance; we crave your grace. We look to your expansive nature to envelop us and strengthen us for the challenges of our time. But often, we neglect to turn to you and instead embrace the passions of the world. We ask your forgiveness for these times when we choose the gods of the world over you, Gracious God; even as we know you have already offered your forgiveness to us. Remind us of your wisdom and your ways, even as we try to live into the commandments you have given us. We thank you for your grace; as in Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

Amid the chaotic din of Athens, Paul was able to distill the wisdom of Jesus into simple teachings directing the people to the glory of God. His simple message? We are God's offspring, and God offers blessings and forgiveness to all. As Christians following in the line of the Apostles, we know that through Jesus we are already forgiven and given assurance of grace. Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen, Indeed! Alleluia!

*Prayer Response

"Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face;
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace!**

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

Response

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

**I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.**

**The world behind me, the cross before me (3x)
No turning back, no turning back**

Sacrament of Baptism

*Today we are celebrating the Baptism of Chelsey Grace Markway,
daughter of Erin and Levi Markway,
granddaughter of Jo Ellen and Tim Grace*

Welcome and Proclamation

Questions for the Parents

*Congregational Assent

Baptism

Blessing

Baptismal Prayer

Anthem

"Borning Cry"

James Melton

Living our Mission

"Clean Up Columbia Report"

Pastor Rick

Epistle Lesson:

Acts 17:16-34

Judi Privitt

Paul talks about being in relationship with God, and the expansive nature of God, welcoming all of God's Creation. Paul is furthering the political agenda of the first century church to open up and advocate the possibilities of relationship with God to everyone, including Gentiles.

Gospel Lesson: John 14:15-21 Judi Privitt
Jesus talk about the relationship God fosters with those who serve God, and how Jesus exemplifies that relationship in his own life and ministry. He speaks of commandments which help define expectations in our own relationship with God.

Sermon: "Faithful Paul" Pastor Rick

*Meditation Hymn "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" NCH #495

Community Prayer

Silent Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response "Grant Us Peace"
**Hear our Prayer, O Lord!
Hear our prayer, O Lord!
Hear our Prayer, O Lord!
And Grant us Thy Peace! A-men!**

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Presenting our Gifts Amy Crousore
"Amazing Grace" John Carter

*To give online text "GIVE" to 573.240.4041 and follow the prompts
You can also give online by visiting our website: www.columbiaucc.com*

Response "We Praise You, O God" #420
**We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;
We bless your Holy name, glad praises we sing!**



Prayer of Dedication Judi Privitt
God of compassion and service; as Paul dedicated his life to you, we also dedicate our lives. These gifts we offer today are indicators of that dedication. Just as Paul's gift of ministry changed the lives of the first century world, we pray that our gifts may do so as well. Take these offerings and use them to bring your Good News of justice, righteousness and Shalom to all the world. Amen.

Benediction Pastor Rick

Response: "Let There be Peace on Earth"
Let there be Peace on Earth and Let it Begin with me!
Let there be Peace on Earth; the Peace that was meant to be!
With God our Creator, Children all are we!
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony!
Let Peace begin with me; let this be the moment now!
With every step I take let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be Peace on Earth; and let it begin with me!

Postlude

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Amy Crousore
Beethoven/Smith

CUCC Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant:

Columbia United Church of Christ celebrates God's boundless and unconditional love by intentionally welcoming and affirming all God's children.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey;
No matter where you are on your faith journey;
No matter your sexual orientation, gender expression or identity;
No matter your race, culture, ethnicity, nationality or politics;
No matter your age, ability, health, relationship status or family structure;
No matter your social, economic, educational, legal or life circumstances;
You are welcome here!

Called by Jesus to be an Open and Affirming, inclusive faith community, Columbia United Church of Christ commits to welcoming everyone into the full life of our congregation. Our paths and voices may differ, but we journey in faith together.

CUCC celebrates God's boundless love by:
Welcoming all God's People;
Nurturing Faith and Spiritual Growth;
Challenging and inspiring everyone with vibrant worship;
Building a supportive church family;
Transforming both the congregation and community
through service and outreach

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Mal. 3:1; 2 Cor. 3:18; 5:17; Eph. 5:27

Charles Wesley, 1747; alt.

1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, joy of heaven, on earth be found,
 2 Breathe, O breathe your lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-ery trou-bled breast;
 3 Come, al-might-y to de-liv-er, let us all your life re-ceive;
 4 Fin-ish, then, your new cre-a-tion; pure and spot-less may we prove;

Fix in us a hum-ble dwell-ing, all your faith-ful mer-cies crown;
 Let us all in you in-her-it, let us find your prom-ised rest;
 Sud-den-ly re-turn, and ne-ver, ne-ver-more your tem-ples leave.
 Let us see your great sal-va-tion per-fect-ly re-stored in you;

Je-sus, you are all com-pas-sion; pure, un-bound-ed love im-part.
 Take a-way our love of sin-ning; Al-pha and O-me-ga be;
 You we would be al-ways bless-ing, love you as your an-gels love,
 Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry, till in heaven we take our place,

Vis-it us with your sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-ery trem-bling heart.
 End of faith, as its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
 Pray and praise for your un-fail-ing, wound-ed arms out-stretched a-bove.
 Crowned as saints, we ev-er shall be lost in won-der, love, and praise.

This hymn is said to have been suggested by a "Song of Venus" from Dryden's King Arthur. It is one of 6,500 written by Charles Wesley, the "sweet singer of Methodism," who was skilled at interweaving literary and scriptural images.

Tune: BEECHER 8.7.8.7.D.
 John Zundel, 1855

Alternate tune: HYFRYDOL
 For another harmonization, see 368, 495

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

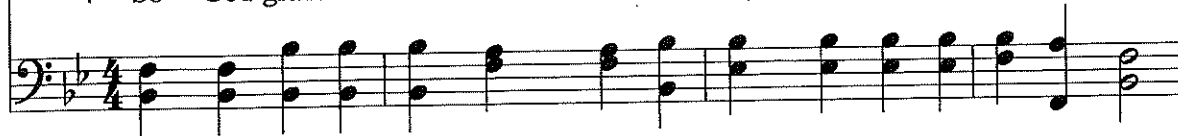
495

Jane Parker Huber, 1981

John 15:12-17; Gal. 6:2; Eph. 2:14-22



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to-mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life



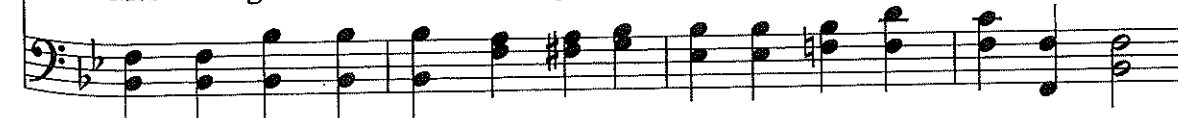
We re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 Let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
 Help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 That sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quers strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,



E-qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
 Blend-ing hu-man skills to-geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
 Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 Mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.



One of Jane Parker Huber's most widely sung texts, this hymn was originally written for a women's breakfast at the 1981 Presbyterian General Assembly meeting to celebrate the partnership of women and men in service of the church.

Tune: BEECHER 8.7.8.7.D.
 John Zundel, 1855
 For another key, see 43, 368