

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HARVEST HOME SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 27, 2020**

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE: *ST. GEORGES WINDSOR (2 SETTINGS) - Hugo Gehrke*

A PRAYER OF PREPARATION

We bless you, God of Seed and Harvest, and we bless each other, that the beauty of this world, and the love that created it, might be expressed through our lives, and be a blessing to others, now and always. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

SENTENCES OF ADORATION

OPENING HYMN: *COME, O THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME*

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: By your Word love was established,
In the beauty of each created thing,
That all might look to the mountains
And in their majesty find you.
In fertile fields and valleys,
Crops and flocks would be tended,
Vineyards planted,
Communities grown,
Laughter heard.

Unison: God of Peace, sow seeds of hope in barren lands.

Pastor: By your Word humankind was given,
The gift of true freedom,
Lived within the safety of your love,
And chose independence.
By man's word are established
Ruler and slave,
Rich and poor,
Full and starving,
Weak and strong.
By man's word are established
Corruption and abuse,
Oppression and torture,
Selfishness and greed,
Within your garden,
Watered by your tears.

Unison: God of Peace sow seeds of hope in barren lands.

REJOICING IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO AND CONFESSION OF SIN:

O God, we stand at the brink of what has been and what is yet to be. We long to receive the gift of your liberation and to taste the sweetness of your promises. But the way forward is unknown, and so we hesitate: discouraged, frightened, insecure, complaining. Yet we know we must move ahead on our journey. May we be mindful of your sustaining presence and, like a bird in full flight, may this assurance soar within our faith so we can rise above the challenges of this moment. Amen.

ASSURANCE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Old Testament: Genesis 2:8 – 15

Hosea 8:7

New Testament: Mark 4:26 – 29

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON: *Job No. 1*

SPECIAL MUSIC: *GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS*

-Bryan Jones

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD'S WILL AND WORK

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

**Unison: Thank you for the gift
of sunshine and rain in due season,
of seed, soil and harvest,
provision for our needs
and others, if in love we share.**

**Thank you for the gift
of living water that does not run dry
and the nourishment of your Word
which feeds our souls
and others, if in love we share.**

**For love which endures,
blessings which satisfy
and the opportunity to share
all that you have given,
we bring to you our thanks.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Pastor: Most High, all-powerful, all-good Lord,
All praise is Yours, all glory, honor and blessings.**

To you alone, Most High, do they belong;
no mortal lips are worthy to pronounce Your Name.

**Unison: We praise You, Lord, for all Your creatures,
especially for Brother Sun,
who is the day through whom You give us light.
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor,
of You Most High, he bears your likeness.**

Pastor: We praise You, Lord, for Sister Moon and the stars,
in the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.

**Unison: We praise You, Lord, for Brothers Wind and Air,
fair and stormy, all weather's moods,
by which You cherish all that You have made.**

Pastor: We praise You, Lord, for Sister Water,
so useful, humble, precious and pure.

**Unison: We praise You, Lord, for Brother Fire,
through whom You light the night.
He is beautiful, playful, robust, and strong.**

Pastor: We praise You, Lord, for Sister Earth,
who sustains us
with her fruits, colored flowers, and herbs.

**Unison: We praise You, Lord, for those who pardon,
for love of You bear sickness and trial.
Blessed are those who endure in peace,
by You Most High, they will be crowned.**

Pastor: We praise You, Lord, for Sister Death,
from whom no one living can escape.
Woe to those who die in their sins!
Blessed are those that She finds doing Your Will.
No second death can do them harm.

**Unison: We praise and bless You, Lord, and give You thanks,
and serve You in all humility.**

Pause for private intercessions

Gracious God, as you have promised, may it come to pass.
We pray in Christ's name and offer the prayer He offered;

**Unison: 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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from
evil for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

THE FELLOWSHIP OF SHARING

SPECIAL MUSIC: *MORE THAN AMAZING* - Lincoln Brewster

performed by Darin Jellison

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Unison: For the promise of harvest contained within a seed, we thank you.
For the oak tree within an acorn. The bread within a grain. The
apple within a pip. The mystery of nature, gift wrapped for us to
sow, we thank you.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

CLOSING HYMN: *NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *PASSACAGLIA* - A. Raison

*Special thanks to **Darin Jellison** and **Bryan Jones** for their offering and gift of music and song. Thanks to **Darin** for reading the Scriptures, and to **Wes, Justin, and Avery Koser** for editing this service. Blessings to all!*