

The Order of Worship

August 14, 2011

10:00 A.M.

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the Worship of God.

PRELUDE Offertoire sur "L'Alma Redemptoris Mater" Joseph Jongen

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Whoever people are, whether friends or adversaries, nearby neighbors or distant folks we will never meet,

People: **God's love embraces us and them and everyone upon this Earth.**

Leader: Whenever people live, whether in days of long ago or times within our remembrance, in this very moment or some unknown tomorrow,

People: **God's love extends from the past to the present and throughout the future.**

Leader: Wherever people dwell, whether in farming community or teeming city, in hut or hovel or high-rise or split-level,

People: **God's love reaches here and there and everywhere.**

All: **As we gather to worship, we give thanks for the inclusiveness, steadfastness and breadth of our Creator's love for humankind.**

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

*HYMN NO. 473 (blue hymnal) For the Beauty of the Earth Dix

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Gracious God, we come before you seeking forgiveness. We confess that at times we more often speak about justice rather than do justice, that we sometimes cling to self-interest and small-mindedness, rather than to love, kindness and compassion; we confess that we are not always as we seem to others, nor even as we pretend to be to ourselves. We come to you knowing that our lives are far more comfortable than others in the world and that we still complain. But we also come knowing that you are full of forgiveness when we are not, that you show us love even when we neglect to show love to others or even to ourselves. May this confession free us to become more loving, more aware, more like him in whose name we pray, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

*KYRIE ELEISON NO. 574 (blue hymnal) arr. David N. Johnson

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*RESPONSE Gloria Patri No. 579 (blue hymnal) Henry W. Greatorex

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 56:1,6-8; Romans 11:1-2,29-32

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN Ellen Anderson

Children age 4 through 3rd grade are invited to go downstairs and participate in Children's Worship. A nursery is available during the entire service for infants through age 3.

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 15:21-28

SERMON "Widening the Circle" Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

*HYMN NO. 298 (blue hymnal) There's a Wideness in God's Mercy *In Babilone*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison) Adapted from *A Brief Statement of Faith*, PC(USA)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ... The Lord's Prayer

(During the Prayers of the People there will be a time of silence. You are invited to use this time for personal reflection, confession, thanksgiving, and prayer.)

THE OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle.

If you would like to receive our newsletter, include your address, phone number and email address.

Though many of us contribute electronically or by a check in the mail, your holding and passing the offering plate is an act of blessing and dedication to our life together in Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Simple Gifts

arr. Aaron Copland

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where you ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,
To turn, turn will be our delight,
'Till by turning, turning we come 'round right.

Terrance McCracken, Baritone

***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology No. 591 (blue hymnal)

Tallis' Canon

(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 542 (blue hymnal))

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***HYMN NO. 467** (blue hymnal) How Great Thou Art

O Store Gud

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 586** (blue hymnal) Amen

Danish melody

***POSTLUDE** Toccata

Joseph Jongen

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP here today.

PASTORAL CARE ELDER'S FOR THE WEEK are Pam Potocik and John Salsbery.

CARE TEAM COORDINATORS FOR AUGUST: Lucy Johnson and Shirley Wittman

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES: Caroline Rogers and Helen Bonnyman

GREETERS: Deborah Phillips and Linda Judge-McRae

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Scott and Ashley Porter, Anna and Leah Milam

LEMONADE FELLOWSHIP: The Bonnyman Family

SENIOR USHER: Tim Ryan

USHERS: Scott Rutherford, Scott Porter, Ashley Porter, Rick Rawe, Janice Rawe

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given by John and Ann Styron to the honor and memory of Ann's parents, Martha and Luke Lucas.

THE BIRTH CANDLE today celebrates the July 27th birth of Elinor Blake Collins, daughter of Dan and Amanda Collins. Elli is also welcomed by proud big sister, Fiona.

OUR THANKS to Terrance McCracken for his enrichment of our worship and to Theresa Pepin for serving as the organist this morning while Peter Van Eenam is on vacation.

SIMPLE GIFTS: 'Tis the gift to be simple, tis the gift to be free...' These are the words to the Shaker song, first penned by Elder Joseph Brackett Jr. in 1848, at the Shaker community in Alfred, Maine. Aaron Copland arranged the song for piano and voice in his first set of "Old American Songs." It is also a major theme in his 1944 ballet *Appalachian Spring*. The tune has become very familiar, as it has also been adapted for the later hymn "Lord of the Dance." Shaker songs and hymns were sung unaccompanied, and in Copland's arrangement for piano and voice, the piano accompaniment is spare. "Simple gifts" is a dance song, used in Shaker services, with dance instructions included in the text. The gift, referred to in the lyric, is the gift of faith, and the reason for the dance.

SHOW (Senior High of Westminster) and college students meet this evening at the Rotella home from 4:00-7:00 p.m. We will swim, cook out, and talk with our college-bound friends about how they chose their colleges. Please bring a side dish to share, and we will provide the burgers and hot dogs.

WAMS, our Middle School group, meets **next Sunday**, August 21 at the Westside YMCA from 3:30-5:30 p.m. We will swim, play volleyball and have homemade ice cream. More details will be coming your way this week.

CAP (Caring for Aging Parents): The CAP support group meets immediately after worship **today** in the Library. We will meet on the second Sunday of each month.

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY meets tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. in the SHOW room.

PASTA COOK-OFF: The annual Pasta Cook-off fundraiser to benefit Family Promise will be held Saturday, August 20 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart School. Tickets are \$6 each, and will be available today after worship in the Schilling Gallery.

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER are invited to a Small Group organizational meeting and salad lunch at 11:15 a.m. next Sunday, August 21. We will enjoy fellowship and do some initial organizing of small groups. Groups will be set up according to interest and each group will determine meeting dates and times according to the schedules of those in the group.

The Hungry Heart: A Play for Social Justice

“The Hungry Heart”, a new play written by community organizer, Beth Carol Hunley is based on real experiences of the volunteers and guests at the FISH Northwest Hospitality Pantry. It incorporates drama, dance, music and song. It draws from real life stories of hunger and poverty and the changing dynamics of the South. The play illustrates the creation of community across race, ethnicity, culture, religion and economic circumstances and language barriers. Westminster’s own Deborah Phillips, on staff at the pantry, wrote two of the show’s songs. Terrance McCracken and Jean Bonnyman are in the cast, playing characters based on FISH founder Jim Wright and organizer, Beth Hunley, respectively.

The play is scheduled for two performances at 7:00 p.m. on August 18 and 21 at the Knoxville Botanical Garden and Arboretum. Hospitality Pantries is partnering with the Carpetbag Theatre to produce the piece as part of the Carpetbag’s “Homegrown in the Garden” series in Knoxville.

Tickets may be purchased at the door, by calling CBT at 523-7521, or online at

<http://www.ticketbiscuit.com/knoxalliance/EventPage.aspx?EID=103801>.