Service of Worship  October 31, 2021  9:30am
4th Sunday of Thanks Giving — Reformation Sunday

Gathering

PRELUDE  “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”  NETTLETON
Linda Dover, organist
arr. Robert Lau

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS  Rev. Mitch Trigger

CALL TO WORSHIP (Video)
We hear the voice of God calling, “Love your neighbor as yourself.”
We feel the Spirit moving among us, moving us to acts of compassion and justice.
We know the love of Jesus. We love because Christ first loved us.
Come, worship God together.
Come, let us serve our God, who calls us by name.

HYMN 771  “What Is the World Like”  NEW WORLD
(Stanzas 2, 3, & 5)
What Is the World Like

1 What is the world like when God's will is done?
2 What is the world like when God's will is done?
3 What is the world like when God's will is done?
4 What is the world like when God's will is done?
5 These are the stories that Jesus imparts,

Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive:
Witness the wandering child coming home;
No more is neighbor just ally or friend;
Ready for feasting, we watch through the night,
filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.

roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun.
watch as the parent breaks into a run.
peace thrives in places where once there was none.
tending our lamps till the new day’s begun.
Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts,

This is how God moves us each to believe.
This is how God longs for us when we roam.
This is how God works when rivalries end.
This is how God reads us for the light.
this is a new world where God's will is done.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text and tune were written to conclude a hymn festival at the 2009 Annual Conference of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada. Four parables framed both the festival and the hymn: the Mustard Seed, the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, and the Ten Bridesmaids.

TEXT: Adam M. L. Tice, 2009
MUSIC: Sally Ann Morris, 2009

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NEW WORLD 10.10.10.10
TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER OF THE DAY
Compassionate God, Jesus set the standard for loving others. He healed, he comforted, he lifted up, he taught, and he loved others. Help us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Help us to be kind, generous, and open to those around us. Above all, help to see all people as your children, all as neighbors to one another. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE & SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST
One: May the peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you and all others!


Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

ANTHEM “Foundations” arr. Joseph Martin

Incorporating “How Firm a Foundation” and “Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”
Linda Dover & Chris Krug, 4-hand piano
Chancel Singers I
Lauren Bond, Karen Kesler, Laura Farris, Susan Hayden, Susan Sutherland, Sue Trigger, Linda Bruns, David Sutherland, Paul Bruns, & Bob Dover

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in God’s excellent Word!
What more can we say than to you he hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
“Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed, for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid; I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.”

Brethren, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God.
Will you pray with all your power while we try to preach the word?
All is vain unless the Spirit of the holy One comes down.
Brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Sisters, will you join and help us? Moses’ sister aided him.
Will you help the trembling mourners who are struggling hard with sin?
Tell them all about the Savior. Tell them that he will be found.
Sisters, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Let us love our God supremely; let us love each other, too.
Let us love and pray for others till our God makes all things new.
Then he’ll call us home to heaven; at his table we’ll sit down.
Christ will gird himself and serve us with sweet manna all around.
Sing alleluia, alleluia!

EPISTLE (Letter) LESSON The Letter of James 4:11–12
Do not speak evil against one another, brothers and sisters. Whoever speaks evil against another or judges another, speaks evil against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is one lawgiver and judge who is able to save and to destroy. So who, then, are you to judge your neighbor?

Holy wisdom, holy words, Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Like a Good Neighbor” Rev. Mitch Trigger

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sending

HYMN 766 “The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound” MC KEE
(Stanzas 1, 3, 4)
766 The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

1. The church of Christ cannot be bound by
   walls of wood or stone.
2. True faith will open up the door and
   step into the street.
3. True love will not sit idly by when
   justice is denied.
4. If what we have we freely share to
   meet our neighbor’s need,
5. The church of Christ cannot be bound by
   walls of wood or stone.

Where charity and love are found, there can the church be known.
out the poor and ask to wash their feet.
homeless cry and welcomes them inside.
Spirit’s care through every self-less deed.
love are found, there can the church be known.

This text was the winning entry in a hymnwriting competition seeking new texts dealing with poverty and homelessness, but as the stanza sung at the beginning and end of the hymn makes clear, such specific ministries grow out of an understanding of the church as love in action.

Text: Adam M. L. Tice, 2005
Music: African American spiritual; Jubilee Songs, 1884; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1940
Text © 2005 CIA Publications, Inc.
CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” by Johann Gottfried Walther
Linda Dover, organist
arr. Duane Plash

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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