SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2020

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

There’s a sweet, sweet spirit in this place
And I know that it’s the Spirit of the Lord.
There are sweet expressions on each face
And I know that it’s the presence of the Lord.
Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet Heavenly dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we’ll know that we have been revived
When we shall leave this place.

LITURGY FOR SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

Holy Spirit, ever living as the church's very life;
Holy Spirit, ever striving through us in a ceaseless strife;
Holy Spirit, ever forming in the church the mind of Christ:
You we praise with endless worship for your gifts and fruits unpriced.

Holy Spirit, ever working through the church's ministry;
Quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving, setting captive sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding age to age and soul to soul:
In communion never ending, you we worship and extol.

Holy Spirit of God, we praise and worship you as the one who gave birth to Christ's church. With the sound of mighty wind and flashing fire, you brought life to the church in Jerusalem.

You filled those frightened new believers with power, and they became Christ's witnesses, speaking boldly the word of truth.

You continue to transform believers--healing, reconciling, empowering. Lives are turned around. Emptiness is filled. Drifting hearts are given direction.

You vitalize your wavering church--lavishing gifts upon us, forging unity, giving new vision. You turn our eyes from the wistful memories of yesterday to the new things you are doing among us now.

We worship and extol you, our Teacher, Guide, and Comforter. You make Christ known to us and make us your holy temple.

By your presence, the church in all its diversity is welded together in unity.

Interceding Spirit, we do not know how to pray as we ought; but you understand our deepest needs and present them with love to the Father. Lead us now to repentance and confession.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me:
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of holiness, we confess that we are a sinful people. In thought, word, and deed, we quench the fire of your love and dissipate the power of your presence. You long to restore us to the image of God; but we let it tarnish as we nurse selfish attitudes. You nurture unity, but we sow discord. You come to make our bodies your temples, but we desecrate them. We dishonor your good intentions for us. Forgive us, merciful Spirit. Burn away our impurities, and forge us into renewed and useful instruments in your service. Amen.

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. The law of the Spirit of life in Christ has set you free from the law of sin and of death. We believe God’s promise in these last days: I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Upon both men and women in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall speak my message.

The Spirit of God dwells in us if we belong to Christ. The Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.

When the Holy Spirit comes upon us, we receive power, and we become God’s witnesses.

The fruit that the Spirit brings to the lives of those who follow Christ is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

The diverse and empowering gifts of the Spirit are given to each one for the common good. None of us is useless to God. None of us is sufficient by ourself. We serve through the body of Christ, and we depend on the people of Christ.

The Spirit’s gifts are given to equip believers for the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God.

Come, heavenly Dove, and alight upon us. Anoint us to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release, recovery, and freedom to those in need.

Empower us to work for God’s kingdom in such a way that life becomes a Jubilee, for us and for all people.

Lift up the lonely, the neglected, the outcast. Comfort the grieving. Restore the lost. Be the advocate of the afflicted.

Teach all your people. Remind us of Jesus, and lead us into all the truth.
Keep us on the edge of dynamic living, wrapped in the flames of new beginnings, and filled with power for personal renewal.

**Form us in the likeness of Christ, that we may glorify God’s name.**

Renew your church. Fill stagnant and empty lives with the breath of God. Overcome our apathy, and energize us with your engaging presence.

**Give your church new vision, new hope, and a driving desire to claim the promise of new birth.**

Spirit of power, work in all who confess the risen Christ to spread your message of hope, love, and salvation to every person and nation.

**Hasten the day when every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!**

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, we praise your name.
O Lord, we magnify your name:
Prince of Peace, mighty God;
O Lord God Almighty.

**Welcome and News of the Church**

They walked with God in peace and love but failed with one another;
while sternly for the faith they strove, they fell out with each other.
But he in whom they put their trust, who knew their frames, that they were dust,
with pity healed their weakness.

He found them in his house of prayer with one accord assembled,
and so revealed his presence there; they wept for joy and trembled.
One cup they drank, one bread they broke, one baptism shared, one language spoke,
forgiving and forgiven.

Then forth they went, with tongues of flame in one blessed theme delighting;
the love of Jesus, and his name, God’s children all uniting.
That love our theme and watchword still; the law of love may we fulfill --
give love as love we’re given.

**A Time for Prayer**

Sin-Sim-Pre-PER-Una
PERSISTENCE

**Anthem**

“O Lord, Hear Me”
Hal H. Hopson

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

Offertory Prayer
Scripture Readings

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
Romans 11:1 -2, 29 – 32
Matthew 15:21 - 28

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel his mighty power and his 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.

Children’s Message

Come, come, come, Christ Jesus bids us come.
O come to his table, all who love him,
think of his grace, and pray to receive him;
come, come, come, Christ Jesus bids us come.

Eat, drink, love, sing praise to God above;
remember how he came here to save us,
gave us his Son, that sin won't enslave us;
eat, drink, love, sing praise to God above.

Go, go, go, into the world we must go;
go tell to others how Jesus loves them,
go to serve freely, thus, we may show them
God above gives all of us his love.


Sermon

Prayer

Bread of life, for others broken
Cause us now to plainly see
That those words for us were spoken:
“Do this in my memory.”
Yet not only in bread broken now remember we the Son.
Let our living be the token that in Him we all are one.

Blood of life, for others given,
Shed for us, our glorious dress.
Shed that we might be forgiven,
When sincerely we confess.
Yet, not only this cup sharing now remember we the Son.
May we too, forgiving, caring, carry on what He has done.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, amen!

Benediction
CHORAL RESPONSE  “Go Now in Peace”  Natalie Sleeth

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION IN CELEBRATION OF THE FESTIVAL OF AUGUST 13TH

Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all.

Amen.

  Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
  Wean it from earth; through all its pulses move.
  Stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
  And make me love thee as I ought to love.

  Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh;
  Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear;
  To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
  Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

  Teach me to love Thee as thine angels love,
  One holy passion filling all my frame.
  The baptism of the Heaven descended dove,
  My heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

SPECIAL MUSIC  “God, Your Love Brought Forth Creation” (verses 1 and 2)

SILENT PRAYER

By your divine presence, by the holy sacraments, by all the merits of your life, sufferings, death, and resurrection,

    Bless and comfort us, gracious Lord and God. Amen.

In the same way, after supper our Lord Jesus Christ took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sin. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.

SPECIAL MUSIC  “God, Your Love Brought Forth Creation” (verses 3 and 4)

SILENT PRAYER
RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP

Christ, the Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Grant to us your peace. Amen.

Whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death,

Until he comes.

Spirit of truth, and grace, and power,
Blow through your church, we pray.
Transform us from this very hour
In all we do and say.

Anoint us all to be good news
To sad and weak and poor.
Make us the instruments you use
To praise the Savior more.

Pour out your gifts, wrap us in flames
Of energy and drive;
And make our goal, our guiding aim,
That Jesus’ church would thrive.

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

In the name of Jesus. Amen.

POSTLUDE