

June 20, 2021
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



Friendship, Pablo Picasso, 1908

We are filled with joy at your presence and hope you experience God's Spirit as you worship and meet with those around you. If you would like more information about RPC, please talk with any Session member or the Pastor.

Bold Letters -- Indicate congregational response

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
maker of heaven and earth.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Gathering Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth

#14

**1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:**

Refrain:

**Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**2 For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light: (*Refrain*)**

**3 For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight: (*Refrain*)**

**4 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild: (*Refrain*)**

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, your word of creation
Caused the water to be filled
With many kinds of living beings
And the air to be filled with birds.
We rejoice in the richness of your creation,
And we pray for your wisdom
For all who live on this earth,
That we may wisely manage and not destroy
What you have made
For us and for our descendants.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

Call to Confession

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But when we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins. Trusting in God's grace, let us, together, confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

**Holy and merciful God,
in your presence we confess
our failure to be what you created us to be.
You alone know how often we have sinned
in wandering from your ways,
in wasting your gifts,
in forgetting your love.
By your loving mercy,
help us to live in your light
and abide in your ways,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.**

Silence is kept for personal confession

Assurance of Pardon

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God,
Amen.**

Response in Praise

Glory Be to the Father
(Gloria Patri)

**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.**

THE WORD

A Time with the Children

First Reading

Genesis 2:15-25

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

¹⁸ Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹ So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹ So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²² And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³ Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,^[b]
for out of Man this one was taken."

²⁴ Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. ²⁵ And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

God in Relationships

Unity Hymn

Blest be the Tie That Binds

#306

1 Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.

2 Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

3 We share our mutual woes;
our mutual burdens bear.
And often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.

4 When we are called to part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.

Together, We Confess Our Faith

The Apostle's Creed (Traditional)

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

RESPONDING

Invitation to Present Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

Eternal God,
we praise you that your glory has dawned on us,
and brought us into this Day of Resurrection.
We rejoice that the grave could not hold your Son,
and that he has conquered death,
risen to rule over all powers of this earth.
We praise you that he summons us into new life,
to follow him with joy and gladness.
By your Spirit,
lift us from doubt and despair,
and set our feet in Christ's holy way,
that our lives may be signs of his life,
and all we have may show forth his love.
Praise, glory, and thanksgiving to you,
our God, forever and ever.

Amen.

Prayers of the People**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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SENDING**Opportunities for Service and Fellowship****Sending Hymn*****I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*****#700**

**1 I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**2 I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**3 I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**4 I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

Blessing and Charge

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

Alleluia!

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Amen.

Response

Be Still and Know That I Am God

#414

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am God.

Postlude