

June 27, 2021
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



The Iris Garden at Giverny, **Claude Monet**, 1899 - 1900

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

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

#23

**1 God, you spin the whirling planets,
fill the seas and spread the plain,
mold the mountains, fashion blossoms,
call forth sunshine, wind, and rain.
We, created in your image,
would a true reflection be
of your justice, grace, and mercy
and the truth that makes us free.**

**2 You have called us to be faithful
in our life and ministry.
We respond in grateful worship
joined in one community.
When we blur your gracious image,
focus us and make us whole.
Healed and strengthened as your people,
we move onward toward your goal.**

**3 God, your word is still creating,
calling us to life made new.
Now reveal to us fresh vistas
where there's work to dare and do.
Keep us clear of all distortion.
Polish us with loving care.**

**Thus, new creatures in your image,
we'll proclaim Christ everywhere.**

Opening Prayer

O God,
light of the minds that know you,
life of the souls that love you,
strength of the thoughts that seek you:
Help us so to know you
that we may truly love you,
so to love you
that we may fully serve you,
whose service is perfect freedom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

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

God Is So Good

#658

God is so good;

God is so good;

God is so good;

God's so good to me.

THE WORD

A Time with the Children

First Reading

Genesis 3

3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" **2** The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; **3** but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" **4** But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; **5** for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God,^[a] knowing good and evil." **6** So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. **7** Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

8 They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. **9** But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" **10** He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." **11** He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" **12** The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." **13** Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." **14** The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,

and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel.”

¹⁶ To the woman he said,
“I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children,
yet your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you.”

¹⁷ And to the man^[b] he said,
“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife,
and have eaten of the tree
about which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’
cursed is the ground because of you;
in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.
¹⁹ By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread
until you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

²⁰ The man named his wife Eve,^[c] because she was the mother of all living. ²¹ And
the LORD God made garments of skins for the man^[d] and for his wife, and clothed them.

²² Then the LORD God said, “See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil;
and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live
forever”— ²³ therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the
ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of
Eden he placed the cherubim, and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree
of life.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Something Lost

Unity Hymn

We Come to You for Healing, Lord

#796 (vs. 1,2,5)

**1 We come to you for healing, Lord,
of body, mind, and soul,
and pray that by your Spirit's touch**

we may again be whole.

2 As once you walked through ancient streets
and reached toward those in pain,
we know you come among us still
with power to heal again.

5 We come to you, O loving Lord,
in our distress and pain,
in trust that through our nights and days
your grace will heal, sustain.

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

Doxology

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

#606

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

This Is My Father's World

#370

**1 This is my Father's world,
and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
his hand the wonders wrought.**

**2 This is my Father's world.
O, let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world.
The battle is not done:
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
and earth and heaven be one.**

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