

May 24, 2020
Order of Worship

Meditation Prayer

Abiding God, who does not leave us orphaned, reclaim us now as we experience the Scriptures, that we might renew our commitment and be empowered for faithful service. Use our hands to do the work you have called us to do. Use our caring to build community. Use our witness to overcome ignorance of your way of love for all people. Amen.

Prelude *Holy, Holy, Holy (Santo, Santo, Santo)*

Announcements

Call to Contemplation *Blest Be the Tie Tht Binds*

Call to Worship (responsively)

L: The God of heaven and earth calls us together.
We come to explore matters of the Spirit.

**C: There is so much we do not know or understand.
So much of God is unknown to us.**

L: Let us look carefully at the objects of our worship.
Our attention is easily diverted from God.

**C: We want to worship the One who gives us breath.
We reach for the Reality beyond our knowing.**

L: In God we live and move and have our being.
All that we have and are comes from God.

**C: God is not limited to shrines made by us.
God is everywhere present in the whole universe.**

Hymn *Praise to the Lord*

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

Let the sound of praising you be heard among us today, and in all the places of your dominion, O God. We believe you are present with us even when we cannot feel or see or hear you as we would like. We thank you for the times when you have caught our attention. We ask for one of those times today. Shake us out of our complacency and our cherished iniquities. Hold us in your steadfast love and call forth within us an awareness of all your blessings. Stimulate among us an eagerness to live as you intend. Amen.

Scripture..... Genesis 3:3-13

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'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; 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.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; 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." 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. 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. 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. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." 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."

Sermon "The Forbidden Fruit: A Spiritual Look at Free Will"

Hymn *Open My Eyes That I May See*

Offertory Invitation

Offertory *Be Thou My Vision*

Doxology: Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

May all that we give today be used to express your love among us and beyond us, God of all people. We are thankful for your gift to us in Christ Jesus, who was so committed to sharing your love that he risked rejection and death. We are grateful that even though his suffering resulted in death in the flesh you made him alive in the spirit. May Christ live today in us, in our caring, in our giving, in our speaking, in our doing. We rededicate ourselves to your service. Amen.

A Time of Silent Prayer, Pastoral, and The Lord's Prayer

Choral Response

Hymn *O God, We Confess There Are Times We Don't Follow*

Benediction, Response & Postlude *Glory and Praise to Our God*



The altar flowers today are given in loving memory of:

Our Parents Nan & Shirley A. Peterson from Linda & Alan Peterson

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