



The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell
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July 26, 2020

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Reflection

“In the case of the kingdom of God, the kingdom is not for now a geographic spot on a map but rather the kingdom of God is present any place and every place where the influence of Jesus’ living presence determines the shape of life. Wherever and whenever Jesus’ wisdom, Jesus’ wit, Jesus savvy, Jesus’ words, and Jesus’ love mold the words, actions, thoughts, and life patterns of some person or group of persons, then there is where God’s kingdom is manifest.”
-- Rev. Scott Hoezee

PRELUDE

Prelude & Fugue in E-Major Vincent Lübeck (1654 – 1740)

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

Waiting is never easy for us.

We are a culture of “instant” response.

Today, God is asking us to wait; to be patient.

It is not going to be easy for us to do that.

Quiet your spirits and open your hearts to God’s word for you today.

Lord be with us. Help us to be ready to hear and respond to your word.

Lord of preparation and transitions, we are already halfway through our summer months.

We sit and wonder where the time went, did we spend it well in your service. Give us these next few weeks for renewal that we may be prepared to work through your church for your world. Keep us mindful of the needs of family, friends, and others, that we will be your faithful disciples, for we ask these things in Jesus’ Name. **AMEN.**

SUMMER HYMN SING

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus” (Hymn No. 216, St. 1 & 3)

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss,
My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

“Just as I Am, without One Plea” (Hymn No. 442, St. 1 & 4)

Just as I am, without one plea
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou biddest me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

Just as I am, thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down;
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save” (Hymn No. 8, St. 1 & 4)

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave,
Who bade the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, all travelers guard in danger’s hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoe’er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to thee glad praise from air and land and sea.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(In Unison)*

Diligent Lord, who watches over us at all times, be with us all these days. We confess that we have allowed a host of worries and frustrations to crowd out your word for us. As you give us peace and your transforming love, also forgive all those times when we have been less than faithful disciples. Gently visit us again with your healing powers. Restore our hope and courage and joy for all the times ahead. We ask this in the name of the Master Healer, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Here is some wonderful news! While we were worrying and fretting, God has been at work in our lives offering healing and peace.

We receive these gifts in the name and love of the Lord our God. AMEN.

HYMN NO. 10, St. 1

“Sing Glory to the Name of God”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Sing glory to the name of God, whose holy splendor shines abroad.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Enthroned above the crashing waves, the God of grace and glory saves,
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Susan Jones

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Guide My Feet, Lord”
Malcolm Haddad, Solo

arr. John Carter

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 29:15 – 28

