GRACE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

MAY 17, 2020

THE GATHERING

The Welcome

*The Prayer of Invocation

*The Responsive Call to Worship: Psalm 16

Leader: Keep me safe, my God, for in you I take refuge.

All: I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing."

Leader: Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure.

- All: The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.
- Leader: I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me.
- All: I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
- Leader: Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay.

All: You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

*Immortal, Invisible

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, In light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, Almighty, victorious-- Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might; Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest-- to both great and small, In all life Thou livest-- the true life of all; We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, And wither and perish-- but naught changeth Thee. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight; All praise we would render-- O help us to see 'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

TEXT: Walter Chalmers Smith; based on 1 Timothy 1:17 MUSIC: Traditional Welsh Hymn melody from John Roberts' Canaidau y Cyssegr, 1839

The Reading of Philippians 2:1-11

The Prayers of Confession

All: Almighty God, who by the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, has given eternal life to all who believe in Him and who has called us to live pure and joyful lives. We confess that we have failed to live as we ought. We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

PRIVATE (Silence is kept for private confession)

Leader: Blessed in the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD. Psalm 32:1-2, 5, 10

All: Thanks be to God.

*The Profession of Faith: The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(The Nicene Creed originated at the Council of Nicaea {325}, and an expanded form was adopted by the Council of Chalcedon {451}. It was formulated to answer heresies that denied the biblical doctrine of the Trinity and of the person of Christ.)

*Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's name! He has hushed the law's loud thunder, He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame: He has washed us with His blood, (3x) He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord Who bought us, pitied us when enemies, Called us by His grace, and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes: He has washed us with His blood, (3x) He presents our souls to God.

Let us sing, though fierce temptation threatens hard to bear us down! For the Lord, our strong salvation, holds in view the conqu'ror's crown: He Who washed us with His blood, (3x) Soon will bring us home to God.

Let us wonder; grace and justice join and point to mercy's store; When through grace in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more: He Who washed us with His blood, (3x) Has secured our way to God.

Let us praise, and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high; Here they trusted Him before us, now their praises fill the sky: "Thou hast washed us with Thy blood, (3x) Thou art worthy Lamb of God!"

Words by John Newton Music by Laura Taylor ©2001 Laura Taylor Music UBP.ARR. CCLI#245668

*This is My Father's World

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. This is my Father's world—the birds their carols raise. The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise. This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad? The Lord is king—let the heavens ring. God reigns—let the earth be glad.

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 Heav'n be one.

Words: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901; Music: Terra Beata, traditional English melody, arranged by Franklin L. Sheppard in his Alleluia, 1915

The Dedication of Our Tithes and Offerings

Since we are not meeting at the church-house, tithes and offerings can be made by mailing checks to Grace EPC, Attn: Bob Woods, 3312 Calvin Drive, Lawrence KS 66049. You can also give directly from your bank to the church, or by credit or debit card. Please go to Grace EPC website at www.gepc.org, click on "Give," and follow the prompts to set up an account and choose the amounts, funds and frequency you prefer. If you have any questions concerning online giving, please contact bob@gepc.org or (785) 843-2005.

THE WORD AND PRAYER

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Scripture

Revelation 1:4-20

All: The grass withers and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever.

The Message from Scripture

The Prayers of the People

THE SENDING

*The Benediction

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Congregation will stand.

Elders are available to pray and assist you at elders@gepc.org, or contact Ryan Randolph (randolph@gepc.org) with any other needs you may have.

Bill Vogler