



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
19 July 2020 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Voluntary

Fantasia in C

Johann Sebastian Bach

***Ringing of the Bell**

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

***Call to Worship**

People of God, let us gather to worship and praise God's name.

I give thanks to you, O God, with my whole heart.

I will glorify your name forever!

For great is your steadfast love for me.

You have delivered my soul from the depths.

God says, "Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go."

Psalm 86:12-13

***Hymn 12**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

St. Denio

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 like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in 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!

***Invitation to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

We confess, Loving God, at times we feel so frail and fragile, getting blown about by the latest crisis, by our own short tempers and failings. You call us to hold fast to what is good but so often we are unable to find that solid thing that will center us again. Help us, we pray, to align our hearts to your will, and to cling to the good that you create in the world. Mold us more into Christ's likeness, that we will bear his love and truth to the world. Hear now our silent prayer of confession.

***Sung Response** Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

***Declaration of Pardon** Friends, believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
The peace of Christ be with you. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Response of Praise** Gloria Patri

Children's Sermon

First Scripture Reading Genesis 28:10-19a

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

Music O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Mark Hayes

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.
Under the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure,
Sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.
Before the hills in order stood or earth received her frame,
From everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.

Psalm 90 paraphrase by Isaac Watts

Second Scripture Reading Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.

Sermon Checking One's Spiritual Compass Rev. Christian K. Choi

Text: Surely the Lord is in this place – and I did not know it! Genesis 28:16

Music Prelude in E Alexander Scriabin

The Church at Prayer

The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Introduction to the Offering

***Offertory Response** Doxology

***Prayer of Dedication** God of mystery and grace, you have met us and blessed us with such abundant promise. In gratitude we offer what we carry in our hearts and our pockets. As we bring these worn and freighted offering, we pray that you would use us, for we come in the name of Jesus and by the movement of your Spirit in this place. Amen.

***Hymn 307** God of Grace and God of Glory

Cwm Rhondda

God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

***Charge and Benediction**

***Voluntary** Voluntary in D

George Dyson

(*) The congregation is invited to stand

Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer, Pastor and Head of Staff
Rev. Trajan I. McGill, Associate Pastor for Parish Life
Rev. Christian K. Choi, Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
Dale Rogers, Organist and Director of Music and the Arts
Jay Kennerly, Tenor Lyle VanDeventer, Bass
Bob Fox, Videographer Elsie Fox, Director
Ted Babcock, Mary Peura, and Mike Nenaber, Ushers
Julie Robbs, Safety Team