

PRELUDE

Performed by Ed Swartz

“To God Be the Glory”

arr. Don Phillips, VanNess Press, Inc., Genevox

William H. Doane

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

(From Galatians 5:16-25)

Pastor: So I say, Let the Holy Spirit guide your lives

People: Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves.

Pastor: The Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires

People: These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are free to carry out your good intentions

Pastor: But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in your lives

People: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control

ALL: Since we are living by the spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.

CALL TO CONFESSION *(Pastor)*

Our church has held the tradition that our worship service is an experience in which you can feel the grace of God. We have said the words of the call to worship together, recognizing that we are all here for the same main reason, and now we say the prayer of confession together - recognizing that we are all here with things to confess, and recognizing that we are all here to support one another - even at a distance! Let us pray our prayer of confession now, together:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Unison)*

Most merciful God, 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.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(Pastor)*

And now, we join in the faith experience of receiving Grace and Mercy. I can assure you as your friend in Christ that we are forgiven if we have prayed this prayer of confession with a true heart. Nothing can stop the love and mercy and grace of God from transforming your life, and forgiving all that you have in mind, and all that you may not know about. You are forgiven. Amen.

WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

(John 14:15-21 NRSV)

15 “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. 17 This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. 18 “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. 19 In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. 20 On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21 They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

(John 14: 22-27 NRSV)

22 Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?” 23 Jesus answered him, “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. 24 Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. 25 “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. 26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. 27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

SERMON

“Holy Gift”

Pastor Joyce Donigian

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Lord, I Need You”

Performed by Amanda Hahn, Jon Bauman, and Ed Swartz

By Reeves, Kristian Stanfill, Matt Maher, © 2011 Capital Christian Music Group

THE APOSTLES CREED *(Unison)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, 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 sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Now we come before our God with the prayers of the people. Let us take a few moments to silently pray to our God, as individuals, or as families, and let us lift up whatever is on our hearts at this time.

Holy God, you hear the prayer of your people. You comfort them with your listening ear that understands their longings, their joys, their sorrows, their desires, and their quest to find your light in the darkness around them. We lift up to you now those who have been diagnosed with Covid-19, and those who have recovered. We pray for those who have died of the virus, and we pray for the families who are left behind. We lift up to you the families and individuals who are grieving right now for loved ones who passed away under other circumstances. We know that it is hard for them too right now.

We lift up our small business owners, and employees who have lost their jobs. We lift up to you those who are waiting to see if they qualify for unemployment. We lift up to you our essential workers who are in the medical fields, who are policemen, military, fireman, EMS workers, grocery and drug store workers, restaurant staff who are still working, government officials, and many others.

We lift up to you our desire to know that you are God, and our desire to feel your presence. May we know that there are times when it is obvious, there are times when we don't notice it, and there are many other times where you are seeking to guide our every step.

We pray these things as we recognize your Kingdom when we say the prayer that Jesus taught us how to pray...

OUR LORD'S PRAYER *(Unison)*

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.

SENDING

INVITATION

Pastor: Jesus invites us to believe in Him and act on our belief.

People: He says, “Here I am. I stand at the door and knock; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in.”

Pastor: When you open your door, we rejoice, as you experience Him in your heart and look forward to eternal life.

People: He says, “If anyone loves me, he will keep My word and My Father and I will make our abode with him.

Pastor: Merciful God, we rejoice with You for all who are saved by belief and grace and all who keep Your word to love others as themselves. Amen.

(If you have professed faith in Jesus for the first time or have committed yourself anew to grow as a disciple, please inform the pastors.)

CHARGE *(Pastor)*

BENEDICTION

SPECIAL MUSIC “This Little Light of Mine” Traditional
Performed by Chancel Choir and Ed Swartz
Arr. Mark Hayes © 2005 Heritage Music Press, a division of The Lorenz Corporation

Thank you to those who made this anthem possible: recording of Piano by Jon Bauman, recording of vocalists by themselves, photos submitted by our Church Family, production of video and audio by Denise Parker