

A joyful church, guided by God, loving our neighbors.

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 8:30 Service
Sunday, 27 September 2020

THE GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT

Surely the Presence

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. K. Nicholas Yoda

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 105

One: Give thanks to God who spread a cloud for a covering and gave fire to light the night!

All: Who opened the rock and water gushed forth and flowed through the desert sands.

One: Seek the Lord and the strength only God can give, a presence that continually abides.

All: We will remember the wonderful works God has done, the miracles, and the judgments God made.

One: Let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER: O Lord, it would take forever to tell of Your deeds, an eternity of boasting how great You are. The heavens could not contain our bountiful expressions of Your grace and mercy. The seas would flood ashore with the expanse of Your love. Yet, we are bold to bring You our praise and thanksgiving. We delight to remember how You care for us all. Be pleased with our offerings of unbridled devotion and accept our attempts to give You the worship You are due. Amen.

OPENING HYMN #65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but thou art mighty.

Hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.

Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.

Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.

CALL TO CONFESSION: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not within us. In confession we acknowledge our brokenness and our need for God who is faithful, just, loving and forgiving. In humility and in faith let us confess our condition to God by praying together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Like our ancestors before us, we complain when things do not go our own way. We want abundance of everything rather than what is sufficient to sustain us. We would rather be elsewhere than where we are at the moment. When things do not go our way we ask, where are You? We would rather You serve us than be accountable ourselves. You gave manna and quail to those before us, yet we still doubt You will be there for us. Forgive our lack of trust in Your goodness and grant us forgiveness, we humbly pray. Amen.

(Time of Silent Personal Confession)

THE KYRIE: Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Again, hear the words of Paul when he writes that God has bestowed on Christ "the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend...and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." As we make our confession, we have the assurance that the exalted Christ intercedes on our behalf. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI #581: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

GIFT OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT TEXT

Ecclesiastes 10:10

10 If the iron is blunt, and one does not whet the edge, then more strength must be exerted; but wisdom helps one to succeed.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Holy Manna

arr. Tom Merrill

Brethren, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God;
Will you pray with all your power, while we try to preach the Word?
All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down;
Brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Is there here a trembling jailer, seeking grace, and filled with fears?
Is there here a weeping Mary, pouring forth a flood of tears?
Brethren, join your cries to help them; sisters, let your prayers abound;
Pray, oh, pray that holy manna may be scattered all around.

Let us love our God supremely, let us love each other, too;
Let us love and pray for sinners, till our God makes all things new.
Then He'll call us home to Heaven, at His table we'll sit down;
Christ will gird Himself and serve us with sweet manna all around.

SERMON

Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw

Dr. K. Nicholas Yoda

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

COMMUNION

CLOSING HYMN #61

Your Law, O Lord, Is Perfect

CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN

Your law, O Lord, is perfect, the simple making wise; how pure are your commandments, enlightening my eyes!
More to be sought than riches, your words are my soul's wealth; their taste is sweet like honey, imparting life and health.
My strength and my redeemer, lawgiver and true light, my words and meditations make worthy in your sight.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

New Prayer Concerns:

- **Arno McGowan**, Health concerns
- **All Families who have suffered a loss**

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

- **Carol Barrows**, Nancy Forbriger's cousin, Ovarian Cancer
- **Denise Bien**, Health concerns
- **Ray Bogart**, Health concerns
- **Orpha DeMaria**, Health concerns
- **Marian Fenker**, Health concerns
- **Dorothy Fisher**, Health concerns
- **Estelle Goode**, mother in law of Rev. Amy Snow, recovering from surgery
- **Michelle Greene**, Health concerns, friend of Jennifer S.

- **Sue Imm**, Health concerns
- **Allison McGrath**, Cancer treatment
- **Glenn Montague**, Health concerns
- **Tom Wise**, Health concerns

Serving in the Armed Forces:

- **Zachary Huffman**, Friend of Barb Imm
- **Brian Montague**, grandson of Glenn Montague

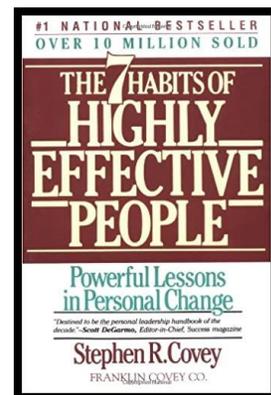
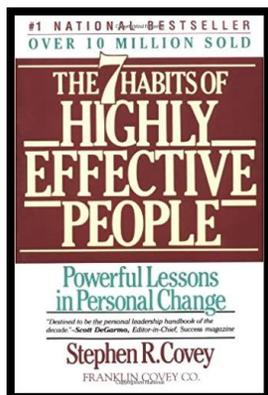
Mission Co-Workers:

- **McGill Family**, back in the United States

****Please notify the church office of any prayer requests you may have including those of you who have loved ones in the Armed Forces or in Mission.**

BLESSED BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Month of September: 1 Donna Knarr, 3 Mary Abbott, 4 Corinne Brill, 6 Lois Thompson, 7 Michelle Horning, Anna Hammelrath, 9 David Knutson, 13 Dr. Thomas Merrill, 15 Carol Suer, 17 Alexander McNeill (A.J.), 20 Robert Hargrave, 22 Edward Graham, 24 John Reece.



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THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again 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.

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