

Prelude by Anya + Friends

Announcements

- Welcome to worship on this 16th Sunday after Pentecost -- and a blessed Grandparents' Day to all you grandparents out there!
 - A special welcome (back) to Anya and her camp colleagues!
 - It's also Rally Sunday! After worship, kids will be invited to visit their classrooms to meet teachers and make crafts -- then head outside for some Rally Sunday Fun!
- Important Upcoming Dates:
 - SPY Team tonight
 - Wednesday Ed. starts this week (5:30 - 6:30)
 - Confirmation begins on Wednesday with a youth/parent meeting (6:00)
 - Next Sunday we will honor our first responders during worship
- Update regarding worship:
 - Starting this month, we'll have a change in our online worship schedule as we start to transition from pre-recorded worship to a livestream. Until we have everything set up, we will record our Sunday service in-person and will post it to our website later that day. This means our service will be first available on the local access channel at the Tuesday times and will air through the following Sunday (so Sunday will be a week behind). Thank you for your patience and understanding as we make this transition!
- As I mentioned, we will be honoring our first responders during worship next week, who will also receive a little something something that our kids will be making today. But today we also remember those first responders who, 20 years ago, rushed to a scene that no one ever imagined. I'm sure for those of us who were alive, we remember exactly where we were when the events of 9/11 unfolded. And so before we begin worship, let us take a moment of silence as we remember all those who were lost on that day and all those who have been lost since as a consequence of this tragedy.
 - God of peace, turn our eyes to your mercy as we remember 9/11. Bring comfort to those who mourn, relief to those who witnessed devastation, healing to those still suffering physical or emotional trauma, and reconciliation to a world in need of peace. Amen.

***Confession + Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Holy God, **forgive us for choosing daily to be complacent, for not responding to you immediately and sacrificially. Forgive us for the times we have tried to make carrying our cross more comfortable, for the times we have not followed you because it wasn't convenient. Today we once again take up our cross and follow you. Shake us of our complacency and strip us of our comforts. May your word pour out of us like water to the thirsty, and may our lives be full of the fruit of the Spirit, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. **Amen.**

***Gathering Hymn** | *Come, Now is the Time*

[chorus] *Come now is the time to worship, come now is the time to give your heart
Come just as you are to worship, come just as you are before your God, come*

*One day every tongue will confess You are God, one day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose You now (chorus)*

*Willingly we choose to surrender our lives, willingly our knees will bow
With all our heart soul mind and strength we gladly choose You now (chorus)*

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***Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

***Prayer of the Day**

Eternal God, **holy and faithful, what can we give in return for our life? Teach us to take up the cross of Christ with grateful hearts and humble spirits, offering all for the sake of the gospel, so that we may receive life in fullness; through Christ, who is coming in glory. Amen.**

Children's Message/Skit

First Reading | **Isaiah 50:4-9a**

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn

backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Psalm 116:1-9

I love the Lord, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,
for the Lord has given ear to me whenever I called.

The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

Then I called upon the name of the Lord: “O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”

Gracious is the Lord and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

The Lord watches over the innocent; I was brought low, and God saved me.

Turn again to your rest, O my soul, for the Lord has dealt well with you.

For you have rescued my life from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

***Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

***Gospel Reading | Mark 8:27-38**

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Sermon

Hymn of the Day | *Every Move I Make (Waves of Mercy)*

Every move I make I make in You, You make me move Jesus

Every breath I take I breathe in You

Every step I take I take in You, You are my way Jesus

Every breath I take I breathe in You

La la la la la la la

La la la la la la la la la

Waves of mercy waves of grace, Everywhere I look I see Your face

Your love has captured me, Oh my God this love how can it be

La la la la la la la

La la la la la la la la la

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***Apostles' Creed**

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 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will 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 Intercession** | *Spirit Intercede for Us*

Let us pray: Holy God, as we call to mind other people in their numerous needs, we pray that you will encompass them with your loving Spirit, and enable your churches to find practical ways of ministering to them. Come, Holy Spirit.

The Spirit intercedes for us, with sighs too deep for words to express, oh.

Somewhere at this hour persecuted Christians are meeting for worship in secret, knowing that sooner or later someone might betray them. Somewhere at this hour of prayer, some silent members of this congregation, and of other churches in our community, may be secretly facing crises which threaten to overwhelm them. Loving God, give us the faith to counterbalance despair and the love to outweigh self interest and neglect. Come, Holy Spirit.

The Spirit intercedes for us, with sighs too deep for words to express, oh.

Somewhere this day innocent people are suffering the chaos and brutality of war, homes are ravaged, bodies mutilated, hatreds enlarged. Somewhere right now oppressed people are working like slaves for scant rewards while their exploiters are living in luxurious leisure. And here at home there are people mourning the loss of lives and sense of safety as we remember the events of 9/11 20 years ago. Loving God, give us the faith to counterbalance despair and the love to outweigh self interest and neglect. Come, Holy Spirit.

The Spirit intercedes for us, with sighs too deep for words to express, oh.

Somewhere this morning people are facing major surgery, while others are being told that they have a disease for which there is no remedy. In our own community we lift up to you: Dan Borchardt, Larry Zinke, Deloris Streich, Pastor Dave, Nancy Gjerde, and Mildred Zimmerman. And somewhere, near or far away, there are folk caught up in the raw grief of a recent death, so distressed that they wonder how they will ever be able to go on living. Loving God, give us the faith to counterbalance despair and the love to outweigh self interest and neglect. Come, Holy Spirit.

The Spirit intercedes for us, with sighs too deep for words to express, oh.

We thank you loving God, for our grandparents, and we thank you that your mercies are never confined to the range of our prayers, nor your servants limited to the ranks of the churches. Please bless the mighty host of those in many races, classes and creeds who have taken up their cross and are following you, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray: **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Communion Distribution | *Messiah & Light of the World* by Anya + Friends

Communion Blessing + Prayer

May the body and blood...

Let us pray: Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Offering + Sending Hymn | *In Christ Alone*

*In Christ alone my hope is found, he is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace, when fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand*

*In Christ alone who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live*

*There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day, up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ*

*No guilt in life no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand*

Song # 3350395

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*** Offertory** | *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

ELW 884

***Offering Prayer + Final Blessing**

Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, you have made us who we are and we offer ourselves to you. Teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you not with our words only, but with our whole lives. In Jesu' name we pray.
Amen.

May God bless you and keep you as you go in the name of Jesus Christ, who said 'follow me' without saying where he was going, just promising transformation and relationship with the Triune God ✠ along the way. **Amen.**

***Dismissal**

Go, deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**