11am Livestream Worship

Sunday September 20 2020
16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 — 11 AM LIVESTREAM WORSHIP

Prelude

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, organ
“Rhosymedre” Ralph Vaughan Williams

Opening Words

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

Sharing God’s Peace

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes.
People: Y también contigo.

Call to Worship (responsive reading)

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
People: Whether we embrace God’s call in our lives or try to avoid it, God is ever gracious.
Leader: Whether we are long-timers or latecomers to the life of faith, God is ever gracious.
People: Whether our lives in Christ are comfortable or marked by hardships, God is ever gracious.
Leader: Come, let us join together in worshiping, praising, and renewing our trust in our gracious God!

Acolyte Procession Video

Nathaniel and Ellie Willson

* Hymn #619 (vs. 1, 2, 3)

Lauda Anima

Praise, my soul, the God of heaven; glad of heart your carols raise;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, should sing God’s praise?
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days!
Praise God for the grace and favor shown our forebears in distress;
God is still the same forever, slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Sing our Maker’s faithfulness!
Like a loving parent caring, God knows well our feeble frame,
Gladly all our burdens bearing, still to countless years the same.
Alleluia! Alleluia! All within me, praise God’s name!

Welcome to Deacons

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

Call to Confession

Jan Irvin

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But when we confess
our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us join together in our shared prayer of confession. Let us pray:

* Indicates where to please rise in spirit.
PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Jan Irvin
For failing to love others as you have loved us,
   God of grace, forgive us.
For wasting your gifts and hoarding our goods,
   God of grace, forgive us.
For plundering the earth and abusing the planet,
   God of grace, forgive us.
For fearing those who are strange to us and ignoring those in need,
   God of grace, forgive us.
For putting our needs first and denigrating your goodness shown to others,
   God of grace, forgive us.
These prayers and the confessions of our heart we offer in the name of the One who saves us,
   Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS
Jan Irvin
Leader: Hear the good news! Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:
People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! ¡Alaben a Dios! Praise God!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON
Jonah 3:10-4:11  Debbie Brake and Charlotte Brake-Hoffman
When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the Lord said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

TIME FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

SOLO
David Jennings-Smith, soloist
“The Call” Ralph Vaughan Williams

VIDEO
“Amadeus”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION
The Rev. Dr. Bush
GOSPEL LESSON
Matthew 20:1-16
The Rev. Dr. Bush
For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.

SERMON
“Beloved by God”
The Rev. Dr. Bush

HYMN #36
“For the Fruit of All Creation”
AR HYD Y NOS
For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God. For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.
In the just reward of labor, God's will be done. In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.
In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.
For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God. For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER
The Rev. Dr. Bush

OFFERING INVITATION
The Rev. Dr. Bush
We offer our gifts in response to God's love, and the grace of Jesus Christ, which we seek to make known through the ministries of this congregation. Please visit www.ELPC.church/donate if you would like to make a contribution.

HYMN #724 (vs. 1 and 3)
“O Jesus, I Have Promised”
ANGEL'S STORY
O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
Be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.
O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

BLESSING & BENEDICTION
The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE
“Fanfare & Processional”
Dr. Moore, organ
Ryan Croyle
PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE GOD OF HEAVEN (vs. 1, 2, 3)

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heaven; glad of heart your carols raise; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
in distress; God is still the same forever,
feeble frame, gladly all our burdens bearing,
face to face, Sun and moon and all creation,
who, like me, should sing God's praise? Alleluia!
slow to chide, and swift to bless. Alleluia!
still to countless years the same. Alleluia!
dwellers all in time and space: Alleluia!

Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days!
Alleluia! Sing our Maker's faithfulness!
Alleluia! All within me, praise God's name!
Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

This adaptation of an older paraphrase of Psalm 103 (see no. 620) is informed by an awareness that much of the received language of religious traditions enshrines social values that obscure the goodness of God, which far transcends all our labels and categories and hierarchies.

TEXT: Henry Francis Lyte, 1834; adapt. Ecumenical Women's Center, 1974
MUSIC: John Goss, 1869
Test Adapt. © 1974 Ecumenical Women's Center

CCLI #689547
FOR THE FRUIT OF ALL CREATION

1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
2 In the just reward of labor, God's will be done.
3 For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.

For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are
In our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and de-
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still con-

sleeping, future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.
spairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.
found us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Originally called "Harvest Hymn," this text is much more comprehensive than that title implies. It also deals with stewardship, thanksgiving, and God's endless gifts that continue to astound us. It is set to a familiar Welsh tune whose name means "throughout the night."

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1970, alt.
MUSIC: Welsh melody, c. 1784
Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company
CCLI #689547
O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED (vs. 1 and 3 only)

1 O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

2 O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near:
I see the sights that dazzle; the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer and shield my soul from sin.

3 O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be.
O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

4 O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee
be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

Written to highlight the promises made by the author’s daughter and two sons at their confirmation, this text equally well recalls the promises of discipleship made in Baptism and in the Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant. The tune was written for a text now unused.

TEXT: John Ernest Bode, 1866, alt.
MUSIC: Arthur Henry Mann, 1881

ANGEL’S STORY
7.6.7.6.D
(alternate tune: NYLAND, 725)
Worship Services

Sundays • 8:45 am
Journey Worship Service
Livestream • YouTube • zoom.us/join
meeting ID 188 135 194

Sundays • 11 am
Sanctuary Worship Service
Livestream • YouTube • Facebook

Wednesdays • 7 pm
Taizé Prayer Service
Archived Livestream • www.ELPC.church

Prayer Times

Pastors Randy, Heather, and Patrice are offering brief Prayer Services with scripture readings, responsive prayer, and interactive dialogue.

Tuesdays • 8-8:15 am
Watch Online • zoom.us/join
Call to join • 929.205.6099
meeting ID 293 707 645

Thursdays • 12-12:15 pm
Watch Online • zoom.us/join
Call to join • 929.205.6099

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