

Order of Worship for June 21, 2020

Third Sunday after Pentecost

*The altar flowers this Sunday are in loving memory of
Bob Russell
Given by Eileen Russell*

*The steeple is lit this week in loving memory of
Charles Dinsmore
Given by his daughter Janet*

Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: The sun shines more brightly.
Its warmth stays with us for so many more hours.

All: So we shake free of our routines.

One: In this new moment,
We wander about the wilderness:
Hoping God will open our eyes
Praying God will make us worthy
Wanting to grow with God.

**All: Let us grow together in the
wild ways of our God.**

Invocation (*inspired by Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17*)

Wild God, you do great and wonderful things.
It's what makes you our God.
There is nothing else in this world like you.
There's nothing else like your love.
Wild God, come and worship with us.
Help us to grow in your love.

Prayer of Confession (*inspired by Genesis 21:8-21*)

Abraham was very distressed. Because his son, Ishmael, was cut out of the community. Because Sarah could no longer tolerate Hagar. So Sarah threw her out into the wilderness. And this is distressing. We are distressed whenever relationships are broken. Still, we confess to God that there are family and friends we have cast out. Knowing this, we are invited to offer your silent confession to God by naming someone you have left behind. Perhaps out loud or hold their name in silence. As a symbol of those who we name, I take a small strip of cloth for each, writing the name of that someone we have left behind in the wilderness and begin to weave or braid it together with the strip bearing our names.

(Silence)

We also know that in times of crisis, such as Covid-19, some communities are cut off from resources they need for survival, ---Work, food, healthcare-- They suffer disproportionately because of race, or poverty, or lack of health insurance. We confess that all too often we fail to look beyond the boundaries of our own communities. Knowing this, we are invited to offer our silent confession to God by taking another of the small strips of cloth, writing the name of a person or a community that is suffering because they are cut off from what they need. Weave or braid that piece of cloth onto the original strips.

(Silence)

Words of Assurance

The God of Hagar and Sarah, the God of Isaac and Ismae
Continues to call us into community across boundaries,
providing water in the desert and the promise of a future.
Let us believe that grace is working in our lives,
Opening hearts, restoring justice, making all things new in Christ Jesus.

Special Music *Blessed Be the Tie That Binds,*
Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The sharing of a common life is like to that above.

Before our God we come and pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our care.

We share each other's woes, each other's burdens bear,
and from our hearts the strength will flow for justice made and shared.

Scripture Reading Genesis 21:8-21 and Matthew 10:24-39

Message "Too Much For One Sermon" Rev. Pamela Cochrane

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Offering

Our Wild God has helped and comforted us.
And it is so good! We will not be distressed. Not anymore!
We will work in this goodness to mend every broken branch on our family tree.
We will use our gifts, tithes and offerings to rebuild the body of Christ.
Let us give to the family that nurtures us in new growth.

Special Music *Somos el Barco (We Are the Boat)* Lorre Wyatt

Dedication Prayer

Grow these gifts in your love, Wild God.
Bless our offerings, our hearts and our hopes in your love
To make us worthy of your work in this world.
Fill these gifts and each of us with your goodness. Amen.

Benediction

Beloved in Christ, into your hands God gives strength and worth.
Take another strip of cloth to weave into and to mend
the broken relationships in the body of Christ.
Trust that this wild world is full of God's steadfast love.
For you, dear servant, were made for this love.
Go in this deep peace.

Postlude