

Order of Worship for September 6, 2020

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*The altar flowers this Sunday are in loving memory of
Howard & Katherine Anderson
and the Rev. George & Eleanor Bayer
given by Kay & John Anderson*

*The steeple is lit this week in loving memory of
Bill Hayward
given by Beverly Hayward*

*The steeple is lit this week in loving memory of
Janelle Tobin's Birthday
given by the Lavender & Tobin family*

Welcome

Prelude

Adoration
Kathy Gross, flute
Marj Simpson, piano

Maurice Telma

Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 149)

Leader: Praise the Lord!

People: Sing to the Lord a new Song!

Leader: Praise the Lord in the assembly of the faithful.

People: Let us be glad in the presence of the maker.

Leader: For the Lord takes pleasure in the people;

People: and adorns the humble.

All: Let the faithful exult in glory and Praise the Lord

Invocation

O Lord, we are a harried people. We tune in to worship this Sunday with a thousand things on our minds. Calm us in this hour. Remind us of your excellent works. Let us revel in your power, vision, and purpose for each of us. Help us focus on you and your presence. Give us ears to hear, and eyes to see, lips to praise, and minds to understand the wonderful work of your spirit. Help us O God, to be fully present to you and delight in your presence, as you have promised to be for each of us.

Prayer of Confession:

Sojourning God, you have called us on a difficult journey. We come with so much baggage: guilt, shame, fear, and longing. We remember how things used to be in our minds, forgetting that the way has always been difficult. We long for an easier path in this world, with wealth and security and without the struggles we face in our own lives. Christ, you have called us to hand over our burdens to You and to take up the cross and follow you. You have shown us that we must deny the façade of ease that is promised in this world, and instead, do the hard work of justice, showing mercy, practicing compassion and kindness. May we have the strength to let go of our baggage, to let go of the longing for the world's false promises, and instead, take up our cross and follow You. In your name we pray all things. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Rejoice! You are loved by God who judges your failures and heals your heart and spirits. In Jesus' name we are all forgiven and healed. Amen

Special Music

We Have This Moment
Marj Simpson, piano

William J. Gaither

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

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 today our daily bread. 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, for ever and ever, Amen.

Invitation of Offering & Blessing

May God bless all gifts given, that all may know the reconciling spirit of Christ through the work of Maple Street Church. Amen.

Scripture Reading Exodus 12:1-14

Message

"The journey to freedom"

Rev. Douglas Vooyo

Communion

Invitation
Prayer of Consecration
Sharing in the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bountiful God, we give thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and in peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Special Music

Lead On, O Cloud of Presence Tune: LANCASHIRE; words: Ruth Duck
Kathy Gross, flute & Marj Simpson, piano

Lead on, o cloud of presence; the exodus is come;
In wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home.
Our bondage left behind us, new hopes within us grow.
We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.

Lead on, o fiery pillar; we follow yet with fears,
But we shall come rejoicing, though joy be born of tears.
We are not lost, though wand'ring, for by your light we come,
And we are still God's people. The journey is our home.

Lead on, o God of freedom, and guide us on our way,
And help us trust the promise through struggle and delay.
We pray our sons and daughters may journey to that land
Where justice dwells with mercy and love is law's demand.

Benediction

Postlude

The Old Rugged Cross
Marj Simpson, piano

George Bennard