

Sunday July 12th, 2020

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: We are like seeds on the wind, set free by the Sower.

All: The hand of God saves us from the rocky pathways and the thorny ground.

One: In Christ we find good soil.

All: The Holy Spirit nourishes us as we grow.

One: Come! Let us worship the Sower who plants us in the fields of life.

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Hymn: VU 274 "Thy Hand, O God, Has Guided"

Prayer of Approach (said together)

Great Sower, cast us like seeds upon the winds of your mercy, that we may grow in fertile ground. Keep our lives from stony pathways, where the heat of life's cares and strife strip our strength and vitality. Protect us from thorny gullies, where the snares of life's worries and fears block the sunshine of your Spirit. Land us safely in rich soil, and bless us with the kiss of gentle rain, that our faith may increase and our joy may be made complete. Amen.

Good News Time

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: VU 291 "All Things Bright And Beautiful"

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 25: 19-34

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

Prayer of Reflection (said together)

Caretaker of our souls, we yearn to resist the allures of status and prestige, for we often pierce ourselves with wounds of our own making. We long to bloom where we are planted, that righteousness and peace might flower in our lives. Free us of the fear of appearing foolish before others, as we seek new growth in your Spirit. Nurture us with your grace and mercy, that we might blossom and bloom as followers of Christ. Amen.

Time of Reflection

Words of Assurance

One: Those who abide in the Spirit are set free. Those who reside in Christ find no condemnation.

All: We rejoice that we have been planted in the fertile ground of God's love and mercy. Amen.

Anthem: Keith and Kristyn Getty: "Gabriel's Oboe/Holy Spirit"

Message: Getting Dirty

Hymn: VU 256 "O God Beyond All Praising"

The Offering

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.***

Prayers of the People

Hymn: VU 640 "Lead, Kindly Light"

The Blessing and Benediction

***Go now in peace, never be afraid;
God will go with you each hour of every day;
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true;
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe;
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above!
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen.***

Words: Don Besig and Nancy Price, Music: Don Besig © 1999

Postlude: Sounds Like Reign – "In Christ Alone"