

Sunday September 20th, 2020

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 30)

One: Sing praises to God, all you faithful ones

All: God hears us in our fears and in our sorrows

One: Where there was no way

All: God leads us in a new way

One: Where there was no mercy

All: God surprises us with fresh mercy

Hymn: VU 296 "This Is God's Wondrous World"

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Prayer of Approach (said together)

Love through us, living God, in the power of your Holy Spirit. Love through us, holy one, by the grace of your child, Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith that we may respond with trust and hope. In your mighty name, we pray. Amen.

Good News Time

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: VU - "Ten Thousand Reasons"

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 16: 2-15

Gospel Reading: Matthew 20: 1-16

Prayer of Reflection (said together)

Forgive us, mighty God, when we doubt your strength. Assure us, faithful God, when we doubt your constant presence. Renew us, loving God, when we neglect to love others as you have loved us.

Empower us with your spirit and encourage us with your steadfast love. Unite us through the power of your Holy Spirit that we might live with a faith that honours you and abide with a hope that encourages others to know your love and grace. Amen.

Time of Reflection

Words of Assurance

One: Christ's grace makes us whole and the Spirit's presence makes us one.

All: Thanks be to God for these wonderful gifts. Amen.

Anthem: The Living Stones Quartet – “*In Christ Alone*”

Message: “First In Line” - Rev. Dr. Jim Somerville, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia.

Hymn: VU 608 “Dear Lord And Father Of Mankind”

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 328 “Jesu, Joy Of Our Desiring”

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: *Juventus Choir - “An Irish Blessing”*