

Sunday October 25th, 2020

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: Into our comfortable ways, O God,

**All: stir deep reflection.**

One: Into our ordered ways, O God,

**All: stir lively innovation.**

One: Into our worldly ways, O God,

**All: stir hints of holiness.**

One: Into our self-seeking ways, O God,

**All: stir the notion of sacrifice, that we may walk our journey with Jesus, calmly, purposefully, and without fear.**

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Hymn:                    VU 497                    “Nearer My God To Thee”

Prayer of Approach    (said together)

**Holy God, the world in which we live is sometimes a scary place to be, especially in a time of pandemic. We need Jesus as much today as our ancestors did years ago.**

**Replenish our lands, fill our hearts with gladness, restore our faith in you and each other, wipe away any tears of despair. As we worship today, we listen closely.**

**Let the voice of your angels fill our minds with new insights. We are waiting for you. Speak to us today, loving God. Amen.**

Good News Time

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn:                    VU 642                    “Be Thou My Vision”

Old Testament Reading:    Deuteronomy 34: 1-12

Gospel Reading:                    Matthew 22: 34-46

Prayer of Reflection    (said together)

**God Almighty, we admit there have been times we have failed to serve you faithfully. Our lives are never quite perfect. You invite us to see things with a new outlook, but we continue in our old ways.**

**You call us to set aside our own thinking so that we may embrace your teaching, but we are stubborn and refuse to let go.**

**Lord, guide us to where we can find our place with Christ. Teach us to take up our crosses and follow wherever you lead.**

*Time of Reflection*

Words of Assurance

One: The Word is very near to us, in our hearts and on our lips. In Christ, we are forgiven; our lives are made new, and our future of hope is restored.

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Anthem: Sounds Like Reign – *“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”*

Message: Being Picky

Hymn: VU - “And Can It Be?”

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 - “Rock Of Ages”

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: *Celtic Worship/Steph McLeod – In Christ Alone*