

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost – Outdoor Worship Service & Picnic

July 11, 2021

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PRELUDE

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP ¹

Pastor: As we gather this morning...

All people: *God is here.*

Pastor: Praise God in this outdoor space...

All people: *God is here!*

Pastor: Praise God in our distant gathering spaces...

All people: *God is here!*

Pastor: Walking, running, standing, sitting...

All people: *God is here!*

Pastor: Down in the valleys, up in the hills...

All people: *God is here.*

Pastor: Praise God all you flying birds...

All people: *God is here!*

Pastor: Praise God all you digging worms and animals that crawl on the ground...

All people: *God is here!*

Pastor: Praise God all you, lofty trees and blooming flowers...

All people: *God is here!*

Pastor: Praise God all you beetles, bugs, and bees...

All people: *God is here!*

Pastor: Praise God, oh clouds, sun, moon, and rain...

All people: *God is here!*

Pastor: Say it again to each other now...

All people: *God is here!*

Pastor: Shout it to the world around...

All people: *God is here!*

Pastor: All creation sings God's praise...

All people: *God is here!*

Pastor: Let us join in that praise and say...

All people: *God is here!*

HYMN

All Creatures of Our God and King

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OPENING PRAYER ²

Pastor: Creator God in praise and adoration, our spirits dance before you today. You have created this wondrous universe and all the magnificent things within it. You have blessed us with so much throughout our lives, even to this day of praise and thanksgiving. Let our spirits, soar! Let our hearts sing boldly of your wondrous love. We celebrate your love and presence with us, and it is in the name of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, that we offer this prayer.

All people: *Amen!*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION ³

All people: *In the midst of our "summer" lives, O Lord, so many things have claimed our attention. We worked hard this year to earn a little rest and recreation, to break away from the stresses of*

¹ Williams, Jeremy. "God is Here – Outdoor Praise Shout." Content used with permission: Williams/engageworship.org

² Townley, Nancy. <https://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entry/2935/worship-connection-july-11-2021>.

³ Mitchell, Mindi. (Adapted: Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness) <http://rev-o-lution.org> © 2020. Used with permission.

our everyday living. But in the midst of all the change, we confess to pushing our worship of you, within the fellowship of our faith community aside. We have focused so much on our needs for physical space and peace that we have neglected our spiritual hungers and thirst. Forgive us when we are tempted to stray from our worship of you and focus entirely on ourselves and our own wants and needs. As we celebrate this day, help us to remember all the wondrous things you continue to do for us. Help us to remember we are needed in this community of believers. Let us look at all you have created with delight And when we encounter situations in which sorrow and hurt abound, help us to be ready to be present, to offer hope and peace. Be with us in these warm days of summer and continue to bind us together and prepare us for the ministry and mission you've created for our future, together. We pray in your holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Beloved people of God, those created in the image of the Creator, hear this Good News: There is abundant love to be found through Jesus Christ. Seek Jesus in all you do and know how much God loves you! There is abundant forgiveness in Christ's name for all our sins, all the ways we have missed the mark. There is abundant grace for us all! Live into God's ways, and know that you are loved and forgiven, and an essential member of Christ's body. Therefore, practice kindness and show compassion, seek justice and mercy, and you will know God now and for all time.

All people: *Amen!*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: As we have been given peace, so let us pass the peace of Christ to one another, from wherever we are, with a smile and a nod, a wave, or a two-finger peace sign along with the hearty exclamation: "The peace of Christ be with you."

Congregation: **And also, with you.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Samuel 6:1-19

GOSPEL READING

Mark 6:14-29

SERMON

Rev. Laura Bair

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

All people: *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 this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

OFFERING LITANY & PRAYER OF DEDICATION ⁴

Pastor: In the beginning...

All people: *The dance began to swirl and ponder...*

Pastor: In the beginning, all was dark...

All people: *And the dance cast forth bright light...*

Pastor: In the beginning, the earth burst forth with wondrous things, creatures of all sorts, mountains and hills, vast seas and rivers, valleys and desert areas...

All people: *And the Lord of the Dance saw that it was good and blessed it all...*

Pastor: In our beginning, God blessed us...

All people: *And the dance went on, throughout lives, into all that we have done and said...*

Pastor: Our God is still creating new beginnings...

All people: *Our tithes and offerings and the gifts of our time and talent are an integral part of bringing those beginnings to full fruition...*

Pastor: In the midst of all our ministry, God is here - blessing us abundantly and inviting us to bring the

⁴ Taylor, Leigh Ann. (Adapted) From the Abingdon Worship Annual, edited by Mary Scifres and BJ Beau. Copyright @ Abingdon Press. <https://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entryu/6147/worship-elements-july -11-2021>.

whole of ourselves into the Lord's dance...

All people: *This dance, called Life, is everywhere – in the light and the dark. It is in places of hope and places of deepest sorrow and tragedy. We are blessed to be a blessing. We are blessed to invite others into the dance.*

Pastor: So how shall we dance for God?

All people: *We shall live lives of hope and peace, bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ and all that he taught us, so that others may dance. We shall give generously and participate in the life and ministry of this body of Christ. We shall joyfully and faithfully dance with one another and praise God!*

Pastor: Praise be to the Lord of the Dance, the Lord of Creation, the Lord of Life.

All people: *Amen.*

HYMN

*Lord of the Dance*⁵

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION⁶

Pastor: Beloved of God, my sisters and brothers in Christ - celebrate the life you have been given!
Live your life with all your might, as a dance to God's glory.

All people: *We will live for God's glory!
Our life's dance will glorify our Creator!
Amen and AMEN!*

POSTLUDE

⁵ Author: Carter Sydney, American Shaker Tune. Music: Stainer & Bell Ltd. Administered by Hope Publishing Company. For use solely with Song Select Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com. (CCLI song #1528365) This video is used with permission by Franklin Schaefer. On 7/6/21 Mr. Schaefer wrote: Yes, please feel free to use it as you see fit. You can also download this video for free along with chord sheets and a PPT at <https://javacasa.com/franklynschaefer/music.htm>

⁶ Taylor, Leigh Ann. (Adapted) From the Abingdon Worship Annual, edited by Mary Scifres and BJ Beau. Copyright @ Abingdon Press. <https://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entryu/6147/worship-elements-july-11-2021>.

Lord of the Dance

Unison G Em Bm Em

1. I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun, and I
 2. I danced for the scribe and the Phar - i - see, but they
 3. I danced on the sab-bath when I cured the lame, the
 4. I danced on a Fri-day and the sky turned black; it's
 5. They cut me down and I leapt up high,

Am D7

danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I
 would not dance and they would not fol - low me; I
 ho - ly peo - ple said it was a shame; they
 hard to dance with the dev - il on your back; they
 I am the life that -'ll nev - er, nev - er die; I'll

G Em Bm Em

came down from heav - en and I danced on the earth. At
 danced for the fish - er - men, for James and John; they
 whipped and they stripped and they hung me high; and they
 bur - ied my bod - y and they thought I'd gone, but
 live in you if you'll live in me;

Am D7 C G Refrain G Bm

Beth - le - hem I had my birth.
 came to me and the dance went on.
 left me there on a cross to die. Dance, then, wher -
 I am the dance and I still go on.
 I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

Em G

ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the

Am D G C G D7

Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher - ev - er you may

G C D7 G C G

be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, 1225
 Tr. WILLIAM H. DRAPER, 1855-1933

8. 8. 4. 4. 8. 8. with Alleluias

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
 Geistliche Kirchengesung, 1623

Descant by DAVID MCK. WILLIAMS, 1937

DESCANT with stanzas 3 and 5

UNISON

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -

1. All crea-tures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing
 2. Thou rush-ing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heaven a - long,
 3. Thou flow-ing wa - ter, pure and clear, Make mu - sic for thy Lord to hear,
 4. Dear moth-er earth, who day by day Un - fold - est bless - ings on our way,
 5. And all ye men of ten - der heart, For - giv - ing oth - ers, take your part,

lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! UNISON

HARMONY

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn - ing sun with gold - en beam,
 O praise Him, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou ris - ing morn, in praise re - joice,
 Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou fire so mas - ter - ful and bright,
 O praise Him, Al - le - lu - ia! The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
 O sing ye, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa - ther, praise the Son,

- - - - - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,

HARMONY

Thou sil - ver moon with sil - ver gleam, O praise Him, O
 Ye lights of eve - ning, find a voice, O O praise Him, O O
 That giv - est man both warmth and light, O O praise Him, O O
 Let them His glo - ry al - so show, O O praise Him, O O
 And praise the Spir - it, Three in One, O praise Him, O

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - MEN.

UNISON

praise Him, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - MEN.

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