

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
June 28, 2020

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License: #A-733911
All music printed with permission: CCLI #1528365 and RESOUNDworship.org

GREETING

Pastor: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 13)

Pastor: In faith, hope and in trust, we gather to worship our God.

Congregation: **Yet we also come in fear and anguish, for God seems to be absent from us, and lost to us in our deep anxiety.**

Pastor: In expectation and faith, we gather to worship our God.

Congregation: **But, how long will you be far away from us, O God? How long will you ignore us in our anguish and pain?**

Pastor: Even now, in quiet confidence we gather to worship our God, even in the darkness of our souls, we will still praise God!

Congregation: **Hear and help us, our God, even when we do not understand—we still come to you, trusting in your generous mercy. Amen.**

HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Bulletin, Page 4

CALL TO CONFESSION¹

Pastor: The idol of our times is personal independence, but in truth, we are bossed around by our faults, our poor choices, the hurts we cause to others. Yet, by God's grace, we are set free from all these passions, so let us join in offering our confessions to the One who welcomes each of us with forgiveness and hope.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

Pastor: God of all, you call us into obedience to the ways of life and holiness:
To honor your image in all whom we meet.
When we ration your sincere welcome to a limited few...

All: *Lord have mercy.*

Pastor: God of abundance, you call us to stop clinging to things:
To trust in your goodness to provide all we need.
When we grasp and hoard and do not share...

All: *Christ have mercy.*

Pastor: God of hope, you call us to imagine a future “kin-dom”
where all find an equal place at the table,
A safe and joyful welcome to neighbors, children, creation.
When we stop short of your vision of your world of mercy and justice for all...

All: *Lord have mercy.*

¹ Shuman, Thomas. “Call to Reconciliation & Assurance of Pardon: Liturgy for June 29, 2014”

< <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2014/06/liturgy-for-june-29-2014-proper.html> > 10 June 2020

² Cook, Elsa Rev. “Prayer of Confession: Pentecost 4 – June 28” Worship Ways: United Church of Christ: 2020 Justice and Local Church Ministries. < https://www.ucc.org/pentecost_4_june_28 > 20 June 2020

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Broken, we are made whole; thirsty, we are filled with living water; longing for a renewed relationship with God, we are welcomed with open arms by Christ who forgives us.

Congregation: **Without a doubt, God's love never comes to an end. We will tell future generations of the grave and peace which is ours and which we are called to share with the world.**

All: *Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.*

HEBREW READING - Genesis 22:1-14 (English Standard Version)

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." ³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy^[a] will go over there and worship and come again to you." ⁶ And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷ And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸ Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

⁹ When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹² He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³ And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

RESPONSIVE READING of Psalm 13 (New Revised Standard Version)

Liturgist: How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?

Congregation: **How long must I bear pain in my soul,
and have sorrow in my heart all day long?**
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

All: *How long, O Lord? How long?*

Liturgist: Consider and answer me, O LORD my God!
Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,
and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed";
my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.

Congregation: **But I trusted in your steadfast love;
and my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.**

All: *How long, O Lord? How long?*

Liturgist: I will sing to the LORD,
because he has dealt bountifully with me.

All: *How long, O Lord? How long?*

GOSPEL READING - Matthew 10:40-42 (New International Version)

⁴⁰ “Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.

⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. ⁴² And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

SERMON**Rev. Laura C. Bair****PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: We pray through Christ who taught us to pray:

All: *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 INVITATION

Pastor: In today’s Gospel reading, Jesus connects the giving and sharing of even a cool cup of water to the act of welcoming Him. In this moment, let us take some time in silence to consider our stewardship of time, talent, and treasure as an act of hospitality and welcome to Jesus, himself! (Moment of silent reflection on one’s stewardship) Please join me in offering ourselves and our gifts to Jesus and his ministry in the world. Let us pray...

OFFERTORY PRAYER

All: *O God, you have entrusted your gracious love to us. May we, who follow Jesus, share your bounty through the giving of our time, talent, and money. Bless and multiply the gifts so others will know your Presence with them too. Amen.*

HYMN*The Blessing Riddle* (Choplin)**Bulletin, Pages 5, 6, & 7****BENEDICTION**

Pastor: As we leave this place, we know...

Congregation: **God will be with us wherever we go.**

Pastor: At work or play, at home or on vacation, we know...

Congregation: **God will be with us wherever we go.**

Pastor: Whether we’re happy or sad, on our own, or with our friends or family, we know...

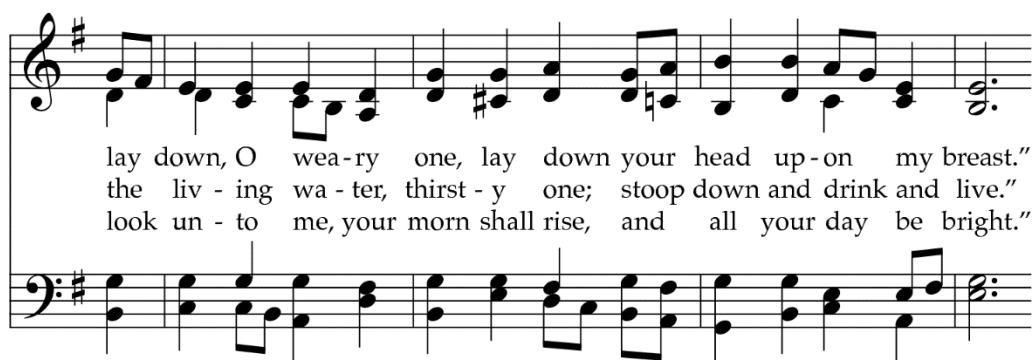
Congregation: **God will be with us wherever we go.**

All: *We now go with peace, hope, and joy because God goes with us. Amen.*

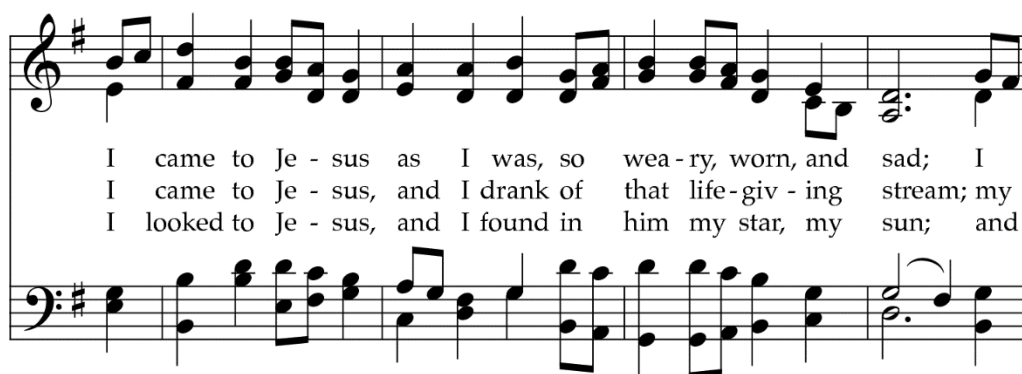
182 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad; I
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream; my
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and



found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
 thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
 in that light of life I'll walk till trav - eling days are done.

Each stanza here pairs an invitation from Jesus with a response from the narrator. These three invitations recall how Jesus welcomed those who were heavy laden (Matthew 11:28), offered living water (John 4:10-14), and identified himself as the light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5).

THE BLESSING RIDDLE

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied,
with opt. congregation*

Words by
PEPPER CHOPLIN

TRADITIONAL FOLK MELODY
Arranged by
PEPPER CHOPLIN (ASCAP)

Smoothly (♩ = ca. 88-92) *mp* ③

SOPRANO
ALTO

I hope you will find

Smoothly (♩ = ca. 88-92) *mp*

ACCOMP.

4

peace — through ev - 'ry trial; I

7

hope you will find cour - age for ev -

* Also available for 2-part mixed voices, No. 21608. Reproducible benediction for congregational singing may be found on page 11.

Copyright © MMIII by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.
All rights reserved. Printed in USA.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

10 11

mile; And when you are a - lone, — you'll

13

find — a — friend; And may you live for -

16

ev - er, life with - out end.

(Verses 2 and 3 on next page)

Verse 2

But how will I find peace through every trial?
And how will I find courage for every mile?
And when I am alone, where is my friend?
How can I live forever, life without end?

Verse 3

Well God will give you peace through every trial.
And God will give you courage for every mile.
And when you are alone, he'll be a friend.
And give you life eternal - life without end.
He'll give you, life eternal.
He'll give you, life eternal.
Life without end.
Without end.
Amen.
Amen.

182 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;

lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad; I
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream; my
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and

found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
 thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
 in that light of life I'll walk till trav - eling days are done.

Each stanza here pairs an invitation from Jesus with a response from the narrator. These three invitations recall how Jesus welcomed those who were heavy laden (Matthew 11:28), offered living water (John 4:10-14), and identified himself as the light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5).

