



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ANAHEIM

AUGUST 23, 2020

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

In the Garden

C. Austin Miles, arr. Jan Sanborn

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to you this day, with burdens and cares in our hearts.

God, take these burdens from us and ease our souls.

We come to you this day, with fear and uncertainty about the future.

God, calm our fears and help us to place our trust in you.

Come, let us worship God whose love is abundant.

Let us praise the God of our salvation who watches over us always. AMEN.

HYMN

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

*Sing praise to God, who reigns above, The God of all creation,
The God of power, the God of love, The God of our salvation;
With healing balm my soul is filled, And every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory!*

*The Lord is never far away, But through all grief distressing,
An ever present help and stay, Our peace, and joy, and blessing;
As with a mother's tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory!*

*Thus all my gladsome way along, I sing aloud Thy praises.
That all may hear the grateful song My voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, Both soul and body take your part:
To God all praise and glory!*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God we confess—we are loose ends. You give us the gift of community, and we weave walls of exclusion and isolation. You give us the gift of a new day, and we spend more time unraveling justice than sewing seeds of peace and unity. You give us the gift of holy surprises and unimaginable beauty, and we shut off our hearts and our blindfolded eyes. Forgive us for our frayed ends and self-centered hearts. Unravel the sin in us and replace it with love. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

At the Table of the Lord

Jay Althouse

SCRIPTURE

Mark 5:1-20

SERMON

“Unraveling the Status Quo”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Great Weaver— Who stiches us together in community,
Collecting our loose ends and turning them into belonging.

I believe in the Holy Spirit— Who hems us in before and behind,
Catching us when we fall and writing us into God’s holy narrative.

And I believe in Jesus Christ— Who loved and claimed the people society had thrown out,
refusing to disregard anyone as scrap.

I believe God has woven part of God’s self into the fiber of our being,
Making us inherently worthy of love and belonging.

I believe in the Church, and that like a quilt of different fabrics,
is designed to be as diverse and beautiful as God’s creation.

And I believe that when life unravels, God is there to stitch my wounds together,
And to invite me into a new journey. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.

HYMN

Gather Us In

Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away

See in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken. Gather us in, the blind and the lame.

Call to us now and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away,

But here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever. Gather us in and make us your own.

Gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bones

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Promised Land

arr. Jan Sanborn

Today's Worship Leaders:

Kim Skilling, Pastor

David Hughes, Hymn Leader

Carol Hughes, Pianist

Kyrstin Ohta and Marlon Santizo, Duet

Abbott Hatch, Video and Sound