



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ANAHEIM

AUGUST 30, 2020

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

St. Denio

arr. Gordon Young

CALL TO WORSHIP

Be Still!

We come to quiet ourselves in these moments of holiness.

Be still and know . . .

We come to discern the Word which can set us free.

Be still and know that God is

our Hope, our Help, our Refuge, and our Redeemer.

HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,

In light inaccessible hid from our eye,

Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,

Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,

Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;

Thy justice like mountains high soaring above

Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Thou reignest in glory, Thou rulest in light,

Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;

All praise we would render; O help us to see

'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, We have been angry because we see suffering and we don't understand.

We have been skeptical because we know heartbreak that doesn't seem fair.

We have withheld love because sacrifice only feels real when it's our own.

Forgive us for forgetting that you created the heavens and the earth.

Forgive us for withholding our pain from you. Forgive us for thinking that we know everything.

When the world falls apart around us— When love unravels and life slowly fails— Draw us in. Show us grace; for you gave the wind its weight and you gave our bodies life. Forgive us for forgetting that.

SOLO

Seufzer, Tranen, Kummer, Not

Bach

SCRIPTURE

Job 28:12-28

SERMON

“Unraveled Loss and Suffering”

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

There Are No Easy Answers

There are no easy answers when suffering comes our way.

We seek the explanations, the tired, old clichés:

Like “bad things for bad people and good things for the good.”

But we know this is foolish, a trope misunderstood.

Lord, each of us knows heartbreak, a pain so unexplained.

Sometimes us humans ask if it is random or ordained.

When evil forces threaten, our careful plans unwind.

Lord, in the midst of suffering, help us your wisdom find.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Courante

G.F. Handel

Today's Worship Leaders:

Kim Skilling, Pastor

David Hughes, Hymn Leader

Carol Hughes, Pianist

Kim Kgyuen, Solist

Abbott Hatch, Video and Sound