

August 15, 2021 – 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Your Worship Leaders this Morning are Members of Christian Fellowship

Prelude

Ringling of the Bell

Greeting

Opening Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 540 - "We Plant a Grain of Mustard Seed" is closely tied to our Gospel. Mary Matney and Sally Morris wrote this hymn in 1990 for the marriage of friends. It opens with "We plant a grain of mustard see and in our faith we find the proof of God is love..."

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Liturgist: God is gracious and merciful and trustworthy. Let us join our voices in giving thanks.

Congregation: The words of God are all around us. Those who share in God's work lack for nothing.

Liturgist: We are called to faithfulness, as God is faithful. We are people of the covenant, gathered to please God.

Congregation: Holy and awesome is God's name. The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom.

Liturgist: Come, then, as wise and faithful people. Come as a beloved community of the redeemed.

Congregation: We are amazed that God remembers us. We reach out to the God who cares for us.

Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 608 - "Christ Will Come Again" is another hymn by the prolific Brian Wren. It connects to the Gospel and calls us to "passionately care for peace and justice here on earth....till Christ shall come again"

Confession of Sin

O God, we confess that we have lived so comfortably in the abundance of our times that we have made material things our gods. We spend our days dreaming of (and working for) possessions that cannot satisfy. The pursuit of riches replaces the quest for faith and faithful relationships. Redeem us, we pray, from our self-destructive ways and restore us to your covenant community. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Gloria Patri

Old Testament Lesson – Ecclesiastes 11:1-6

Hymn of Praise (Recorded) – “in The Garden” – solo by Tammie Huerth

Epistle Lesson – 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Lord’s Prayer

Offering & Offertory 528 - Our offertory is a Spanish hymn arranged by Mexican organist and choral director Skinner Chavez-Melo. “You Are the Seed” ends with “Go, my friends, go to the world, proclaiming love to all, messengers of my forgiving peace, eternal love, till the end of the world.”

Gospel Lesson – Matthew 13:20-31,36-40

Sermon

Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 28 - Folliot S. Pierpoint penned “For the Beauty of the Earth” on a late spring day when flowers were in full bloom and all the earth seemed to rejoice.

Benediction

Postlude