

October 3, 2021 – 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Ring of the Bell

Opening Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 323 - "Little Children, Welcome!" continues with "Earth is yours to live in, arms of love protect you, little children welcome!"

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Liturgist: God's Word has been lived among us! We gather in the name of Jesus Christ.

Congregation: Christ is a part of God's ongoing creation. We gather before the One who is heir to all things.

Liturgist: Long ago, God spoke to our spiritual ancestors. Today, God continues that revelation through Jesus.

Congregation: Who are we that God is mindful of us? Yet God crowns us with glory and honor.

Liturgist: Jesus has named us as sisters and brothers. We are called to recognize all humanity as children of God.

Congregation: The realm of God is for all people. God's dominion is over all creation.

Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 615 - "Enter in the Realm of God" is directly connected to our Gospel reading for today. It closes with "May your children everywhere hear your greeting: 'Welcome, friend!'"

Confession of Sin

All-seeing God, we would like to wash our hands in innocence, but we cannot escape from the guilt we carry. We compare ourselves favorably with people we label worthless or hypocrites, but that very judgment breaks faith with you. We avoid bribery and other evil devices, yet we would still like to have advantages for ourselves over others. We are not bloodthirsty, but we have not yet adopted the way of peace. We humbly seek forgiveness as little children in need of your welcoming love. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Gloria Patri (Instrumental)

Old Testament Lesson – Job 1:1; 2:1-10

Distribution of Bibles

Hymn of Praise (Recorded Video) – "This Little Light of Mine"

Children's Sermon

Epistle Lesson – Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory - 569 - Today's offertory is a fantasy based on "Touch the Earth Lightly." It speaks of the dangers mankind poses for the planet. The text closes with "teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us, using us gently, and making us one."

Gospel Lesson – Mark 10:2-16

Sermon

Communion

Closing Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 325 - Ronald Cole-Turner is an ordained UCC minister and an award-winning author on the interface of science and religion. "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise" encourages all to "grow to laugh and sing and worship, trust and love God more than all."

Benediction

Postlude