

Audacity and Promise

October 10, 2021 – 10 a.m.

Order of Worship



Christ and the Rich Young Man, a manuscript illumination by Master of Antwerp

Sunday Worship online

Indoor worship is on NFCC's Facebook page and Zoom.

Preparing for Worship

For outdoor worship, please bring a chair and your coffee.

For indoor worship, please bring your mask.

Ministering to Us Today

Rev. Christina Williams and Melessa Fox, Deacon, will be leading us in worship today. We are grateful to Babette Bach, Sarah Bach, and Alan King for providing the music, and to our technical staff for the day. Thank you for ministering to us in these ways.

MEDITATION

"We are going through the eye of the needle; make sure you leave what you don't need behind."
—Terence McKenna

WE GATHER

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING WORDS

Pastor: And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. **C: And also with you.**

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Thom Shuman)

Melessa Fox, Deacon

L: What can we do to have life?

All: We can seek God, who gives us life in every moment.

L: What can we do to serve justice in our world?

All: We can set aside that which keeps us from following Jesus.

L: What can we do to share the good news with others?

All: We can open ourselves to the Spirit so that people can see God at work in us.

SONG FOR THE SEASON OF PENTECOST

"Lord, Prepare Me"

GTG 701

You are invited to sing quietly to the music with a mask on.

Lord, Prepare Me / Haz de mí, Dios

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff begins with a fermata over the first measure. The second staff has a fermata over the first measure. The third staff includes a repeat sign with the instruction 'To repeat Para repetir' and a final measure with the instruction 'Last time / Última vez'.

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and
Haz de mí, Dios, hoy, un san - tua - rio vi - vo; pu - ro y

ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a
san - to, fiel a ti. Dan - do gra - cias, se - ré por

liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you. you.
siem - pre tu san - tua - rio, has - ta el fin. fin.

Text: John Thompson, b.1950, and Randy Scruggs, b.1953, © 1982, Full Armor Music Publishing Co.; tr. by Gerardo Oberman, b.1965, © 2019, GIA Publications, Inc.
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UNISON OPENING PRAYER

Melessa Fox, Deacon

O Wise God, you have come to us in the form of a vulnerable child; you teach us that the last are first and the first, last; you lead us on a Way to new life that leads through death. Truly your wisdom is different than ours! Meet us in this place and teach us your foolish wisdom and your vulnerable power; give us joy to receive it fully and courage to live it foolishly, through Jesus Christ, your Wisdom and Word. Amen

You are invited to sing quietly to the music with a mask on.

Jesus Calls Us, o’er the Tumult

172

Cecil F. Alexander, 1852; alt.

Mat. 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; John 21:15

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE READING – Mark 10:17-31 – *The Rich Man*

Narrator: As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him. He fell on his knees before Jesus.

Rich Man: “Good teacher,” he said, “what must I do to receive eternal life?”

Jesus: “Why do you call me good?” “No one is good except God. You know what the commandments say. ‘Do not murder. Do not commit adultery. Do not steal. Do not be a false witness. Do not cheat. Honor your father and mother.’ ”

Rich Man: “Teacher, I have obeyed all those commandments since I was a boy.”

Narrator: Jesus looked at him and loved him.

Jesus: “You are missing one thing,” Go and sell everything you have. Give the money to those who are poor. You will have treasure in heaven. Then come and follow me.”

Narrator: The man’s face fell. He went away sad because he was very rich. Jesus looked around and said to his disciples,

Jesus: “How hard it is for rich people to enter God’s kingdom!”

Narrator: The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again,

Jesus: “Children, how hard it is to enter God’s kingdom! Is it hard for a camel to go through the eye of a needle? It is even harder for someone who is rich to enter God’s kingdom!”

Narrator: The disciples were even more amazed. They said to each other,

All: “Then who can be saved?”

Jesus: “With people, this is impossible. But not with God. All things are possible with God.”

Peter: “We have left everything to follow you!”

Jesus: “What I’m about to tell you is true, has anyone left home or family or fields for me and the good news? They will receive 100 times as much in this world. They will have homes and families and fields. But they will also be treated badly by others. In the world to come they will live forever. But many who are first will be last. And the last will be first.”

L: The liberating Word of God, for the people of God. **All: Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

“Audacity and Promise”

Rev. Christina Williams

ANTHEM

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”
Alan King, tenor

African American spiritual

WE RESPOND

JOYS & CONCERNS

For those online, you are invited to write the names of those you wish to lift in prayer and those joys you want to celebrate in the comments section. After a name(s) is spoken or when the pastor reads the names online, you are invited to respond, “O Lord, hear our prayer.”

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 of our daily bread, and forgive us of our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessing flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love had done:
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One Amen.

UNISON OFFERTORY PRAYER

Holy God, you both call us and confront us: the gifts we bring are only a small part of the multitude we receive from you. In the depth of our being, we know that in calling us, you seek our faith, our willingness, our conviction, and our very hearts. In gratitude, we offer our whole being to follow Jesus—bringing his hope and healing wherever we go. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

WE GO FORTH

CLOSING HYMN

“Lord, I Want To Be a Christian” (*All verses*)

GTG #729

You are invited to sing quietly to the music with a mask on.

729 Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;
 2 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart;
 3 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart;
 4 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,
 In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

SENDING

In God's mercy, we are rich.
 In Jesus' love, we are welcomed.
 In the Spirit's peace, we are satisfied.
 And with God all things are possible.
 Be audacious with God's care and compassion
 as you walk in Christ's footsteps,
 guided by God's hand.

POSTLUDE