



An Open and Affirming Congregation

September 20, 2020

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**WORSHIPING THE GOD
WHO KEEPS US TOGETHER WHILE WE ARE APART**

Prelude:

Welcome

Call to Worship (Responsively):

People of God, gather in the joy of the Lord.

Come into God's presence with singing, and into God's courts with praise.

For God is our Creator who has given us life and who supplies us with all that we need.

God calls us and each new generation into a life of service and of praise.

Let the praise of God rise from our lips.

And let obedience to God be the rule all our days, starting now.

Opening Prayer (Unison):

Creator God, we look to your power and to your mercy which is ever great and ever sure. We place ourselves in your hands today and trust you for our every tomorrow. Until evidence comes that our prayers are heard and answered in the kindness that shall surely be, help us to believe and to lay hold of hope. May worship strengthen us and shape our spirits after the pattern of your Spirit, all through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn:

God Created Heaven and Earth

Prayer of Confession (Unison):

Great God, we turn to you for that grace beyond compare that can save us from despair. We are fast becoming undone, and it is making us afraid. It is not our morality that is failing. It is our faith. And the failing of our faith makes us afraid. For if faith be gone, what is left? Don't hold our doubt against us. Don't condemn us for feeling insecure. But hold us all the more tightly, all the more lovingly. We need you as never before. Have mercy. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

"Better Together" Worshiping with Joy

Julie Sundby, Stewardship Speaker

Pastoral Prayer and 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, for ever. Amen.

Children's Choir Anthem: *Go* [Yancy]

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:1-5, 26-31 Beth Yurs, reader

Chancel Choir Anthem: *Praise His Holy Name* [Hampton]

Sermon: The God of Genesis
God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. Gen. 1:31a

Hymn: *O Day of God, Draw Near*

Benediction

Benediction Response: *Benediction* [Thompson]
Barry Robinson Chorus

Postlude:

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Yurs, Pastor
Dawn Lingard, Organist/Pianist

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