



An Open and Affirming Congregation

August 2, 2020

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

THE CHURCH IN RECOVERY MODE

Prelude *Ancient Words with Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Welcome

Call to Worship (Responsively):

Seek the God of the ages.

Call to the Ancient of Days.

Join your voices with those who seek the Lord.

Call to God in faith and in hope.

Opening Prayer (Unison):

Where is the God of Abraham? Where is the God of Jacob? Where is the God of Elijah? Where is the God of Peter and of Paul? Where is the God of Mary and Martha, those sisters of Bethany? Where are you, O God? We seek you. We need you. Help us to find you. And when we find you, help us to be true to you, committed to your word, unashamed of the gospel, and self-giving in devoted service. Amen.

Hymn:

I Would Be True

Prayer of Confession (Unison):

O Lord our God to whom we would be true and to whom we have professed loyalty and love, we confess that our loyalty and love sometimes grow cold and we are not always true to you. Praying through each busy moment? Constantly in touch with God? Tuned to sense God's slightest whisper? Faith to keep the path Christ trod? None of that has been us. The hymn we've just had exposes our flaws. Hear, though, the desire of our hearts and judge not the way we work out our lives. Our ideals are solid but our practice is flimsy. Have mercy upon us and help us to be truer than we've been. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

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.

Scripture Reading:

Romans 1:8-17

Dawn Lingard, reading

Sermon:

A Faith Unashamed

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. Rom. 1:16

Hymn:

Faith of the Martyrs

Benediction

Postlude

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Yurs, Pastor

Dawn Lingard, Organist/Pianist

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