

Worship – August 23, 2020

Pastor Alaire Willits

Music as We Gather

Welcome, Joys and Concerns

Call to Worship

We come, as we are, from our daily lives, to be refreshed and renewed. We gather, as we are, finding strength and support in others. **Let us worship God, source of all life.**

Opening Hymn

Refrain:

I am the church! You are the church!
We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus,
all around the world!
Yes, we're the church together!

1. The church is not a building;
the church is not a steeple;
the church is not a resting place;
the church is a people. **(Refrain)**

2. We're many kinds of people,
with many kinds of faces,
all colors and all ages, too
from all times and places. **(Refrain)**

3. Sometimes the church is marching;
sometimes it's bravely burning,
sometimes it's riding, sometimes hiding;
always it's learning. **(Refrain)**

4. And when the people gather,
there's singing and there's praying;
there's laughing and there's crying
sometimes, all of it saying **(Refrain)**

5. We are the church, God's people,
living out our call
enlightened, sharing, asking questions,
loving each and all. **(Refrain)**

Prayer of Confession

We come, Holy One, trusting you are here. We want to turn from those things that often define our days and strip our attention from you. Hear us, Lord.

We confess we aren't always aware of your work in the world. "why, God, is all this happening? Where are you?"

But you are here. Our help and stay, our companion and friend, you are present in all things.

Forgive us for living in worry rather than hope. For focusing on what's all around us, feeling helpless, throwing our hands up in the air, rather than remembering you call us to Love others. Only love.

Open our hearts, that we may declare your praise, proclaim your Love to all we meet, honor you in all we do. Hear our prayers.

Time of silent reflection

Assurance of Pardon

God gives mercy, accepts us, forgives and heals us - body, soul, and spirit.

Thank you, Lord. Amen.

Scripture

Matt 15: (10-20) 21-28

Morning Reflection

Pastor Alaire

Show and Tell

Hymn of Response

Make me a servant, humble and meek.
Lord let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the prayers of my heart always be
make me a servant, make me a servant
make me a servant today

Dedicating Ourselves & Our Gifts.

We will proclaim our love not only with our words, but with these gifts we bring, these caring bags we've created, and with our lives. Small things, O Lord, truly may make a difference.

We offer prayers this day for the staff and students and their families as the school year begins. Give your joy, patience, and wisdom to all. May lives, their and ours, be transformed by your grace, your hope, and your peace.

We pray together as Jesus' taught,
Our Father...

Song to Send Us Out *a capella*

Bind us together, Lord. Bind us together
with cords that cannot be broken.

Bind us together, Lord. Bind us together,
Lord. Bind us together in love.

Blessing and Going Forth

We are sent from this spot, from this
time, to share God's transforming love.
The Holy Spirit will strengthen us.

**Lord, encourage us and empower us to
do your will. We go, to live and love and
laugh and serve you. AMEN.**

Mission Projects for Learning

We're working on school kits through August.
Shop from the list below or mark "Ingathering"
on your check or envelope! Thanks!!!

A school kit contains: 3 notebooks -1 subject
spiral 8" x 10 1/2", 1 Box **12** Colored Pencils, 1
Pair of Scissors – student, 1 Box 24 Crayons, 1
Ruler - 12" long with metric, 6 Pencils –
unsharpened, 1 Pencil Sharpener, 1 Pencil
Eraser - 2" or larger

Prayer concerns: Kayne C Cory J Don R
Mark T Todd W Jim S Denny T Kirby A Gwen J