

July 26, 2020 Bulletin

Prelude "Open My Eyes, That I May See" arr. by David H. Hegarty

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" UMH #540 (vv. 1-3)

I love thy kingdom, Lord, the house of thine abode,
the church our blest Redeemer saved with his own precious blood.

I love thy church, O God! Her walls before thee stand
dear as the apple of thine eye, and graven on thy hand.

For her my tears shall fall, for her my prayers ascend,
to her my cares and toils be given, till toils and cares shall end.

Unison Prayer

We give you our deepest praise, O God! Your presence gives us reason to rejoice! Shine your light upon us and fill us to overflowing with an ever-increasing ability to love you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, that we would be bold in our faith and witness. Through Christ Jesus we pray. Amen.

Hymn "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" UMH #540 (vv. 4-5)

Beyond my highest joy I prize her heavenly ways,
her sweet communion, solemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.

Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zion shall be given
the brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heaven.

Welcome & Announcements

Special Music "You've Got to Be Carefully Taught" Tom Norager, tenor
By Rodgers and Hammerstein from South Pacific

Scripture Reading Matthew 13:31-33; 44-52 (Common English Bible)

³¹ He told another parable to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and planted in his field. ³² It's the smallest of all seeds. But when it's grown, it's the largest of all vegetable plants. It becomes a tree so that the birds in the sky come and nest in its branches."

³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast, which a woman took and hid in a bushel of wheat flour until the yeast had worked its way through all the dough."

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure that somebody hid in a field, which someone else found and covered up. Full of joy, the finder sold everything and bought that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one very precious pearl, he went and sold all that he owned and bought it.

⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that people threw into the lake and gathered all kinds of fish.

⁴⁸ When it was full, they pulled it to the shore, where they sat down and put the good fish together into containers. But the bad fish they threw away. ⁴⁹ That's the way it will be at the end of the present age. The angels will go out and separate the evil people from the righteous people, ⁵⁰ and will throw the evil ones into a burning furnace. People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked.

They said to him, "Yes."

⁵² Then he said to them, "Therefore, every legal expert who has been trained as a disciple for the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings old and new things out of their treasure chest."

Message "What Do I Bring to the Table?"

Invitation to Give & Prayer of Dedication

God, when the subject of giving comes up, the focus is usually fiscal. But your Word tells us that the offering we bring to the table each week goes beyond an amount of money we bring, and includes every aspect of our lives. Today we dedicate our financial offering to you, trusting that you will funnel it to the persons and ministries that need it the most. But we also dedicate to you the whole of our lives, including our giftedness, our hearts, our abilities, our personalities, our experiences, and everything else you entrusted into our care, now put to work to accomplish your purposes. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Musical Offering "God Will Make a Way" Tom Norager, tenor
By Don Moen

Closing Hymn "Open My Eyes, That I May See" UMH #454

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Benediction

L: Go from this place with joy, giving thanks to God, proclaiming His goodness, celebrating His love, and worshipping Him with your lives.

P: For He is the Lord our God, faithful to a thousand generations.

L: And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and among you in the week ahead.

P: Amen.

Postlude "Open My Eyes, Lord"