

January 17, 2021 Order of Worship

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Prelude

"Hymn for Brotherhood"
Arr. by Robert J. Hughes

Opening Songs/Hymns

"Be Thou My Vision" #451

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my Wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, and I thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.
3. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.
4. High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

"For Everyone Born, A Place at the Table" #3149

1. For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,

Refrain: and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

2. For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair,

Refrain

3. For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong,

Refrain

4. For just and unjust, a place at the table,
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live,

Refrain

5. For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free,

Refrain

Introduction to the worship service

Music Video – "The Keep Going Song"

Brief comment and reflection on the music video

Scripture Reading – Romans 8:22-27

We know that the whole creation is groaning together and suffering labor pains up until now. And it's not only the creation. We ourselves who have the Spirit as the first crop of the harvest also groan inside as we wait to be adopted and for our bodies to be set free. We were saved in hope. If we see what we hope for, that isn't hope. Who hopes for what they already see? But if we hope for what we don't see, we wait for it with patience.

In the same way, the Spirit comes to help our weakness. We don't know what we should pray, but the Spirit himself pleads our case with unexpressed groans. The one who searches hearts knows how the Spirit thinks, because he pleads for the saints, consistent with God's will.

Commentary/Reflection on Romans 8:22-27

Scripture Reading – Psalm 126

¹When the Lord changed Zion's circumstances for the better,
it was like we had been dreaming.

²Our mouths were suddenly filled with laughter;
our tongues were filled with joyful shouts.

It was even said, at that time, among the nations,
"The Lord has done great things for them!"

³Yes, the Lord has done great things for us,
and we are overjoyed.

⁴ Lord, change our circumstances for the better,
like dry streams in the desert waste!

⁵ Let those who plant with tears
reap the harvest with joyful shouts.

⁶ Let those who go out,
crying and carrying their seed,
come home with joyful shouts,
carrying bales of grain!

Commentary/Reflection on Psalm 126

Song – "God of all Peoples" (tune: "Morning Has Broken")

God of all peoples, cultures, and nations,
God of the poor and wealthy ones, too —
Be with our land as we make decisions;
Help us, we pray, to listen to you.

May we hear well your call to do justice;
May we know all your children have worth.
May we seek leaders who will end violence;
May we choose ones who care for your earth.

May we be thoughtful in our decisions:
Who will be truthful, moral, and wise?
Who will restore the streets that we live in?
Who will love those whom others despise?

How will the ones campaigning to lead us
Care for the stranger, outcast, and poor?
Will they hear ones who long have been silenced?
Or will they say that wealth matters more?

God, may this time of anger be over;
May we grow past our current divide.
Make us as one, as sisters and brothers;
In this good land, may your love abide.

Invitation to Respond

Offertory

"My Hope is in You"
By Ruth Elaine Schram

Tom Norager, Steve Grattan,
Pearl Swanson, Cathy Grattan

Closing Prayer & Sending Forth

Postlude

"My Life is in You, Lord"
By Daniel Gardner