

# The Worship of God

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost  
August 16, 2020

## *We Gather in God's Presence*

### Greeting

Rev. Dr. Jeff Hayes

*As you gather for worship in whatever space you find yourself, center your heart and spirit on God's presence in your life.*

### Honoring the Life of Rev. Harold "Bo" Coleman

### Lighting of the Altar Candles

*The light symbolizes the presence of God in our worship and in our lives.*

### Presenting the Cross

*The cross symbolizes the grace of God given freely to all people*

### Call to Worship

Rev. Suzanne Ringer

Praise the one who breaks the darkness with a liberating light!

**We come to rejoice in the Holy One, our God. We give thanks that God sets us free!**

Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done!

**We come to rejoice in the Holy One, our God. We give thanks that God sets us free!**

### Hymn of Praise 353

NETTLETON

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

*Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light;  
Praise the One who frees the prisoners turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, healing every dread disease,  
Calming the storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.  
Praise the One who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word;  
Praise the One who drove out demons with a piercing two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand;  
From this well comes living water, quenching thirst in every land.  
Praise the one true love incarnate, Christ who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done;  
Praise the one redeeming glory, Praise the One who makes us one.*

## *We Hear God's Word and Pray*

### Scripture

Mrs. Leigh Reynolds

Acts 16:23-34

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought



them outside and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They answered, “Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

The word of God for the people of God  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Prayers of the People**

Mrs. Reynolds

## ***We Grow from God’s Word***

**Sermon**

Rev. Dr. Hayes

## ***We Respond to God’s Word***

**Song of Response 570**

Phil McHugh and Greg Nelson

People Need the Lord

*Everyday they pass me by, I can see it in their eye.  
Empty people filled with care, headed who knows where?  
On they go through private pain, Living fear to fear.  
Laughter hides their silent cries, only Jesus hears.*

*Chorus:*

*People need the Lord, people need the Lord.  
At the end of broken dreams, He’s the open door.  
People need the Lord, people need the Lord.  
When will we realize — people need the Lord?*

*We are called to take His light to a world where wrong seems right.  
What would be too great a cost for sharing life with one who’s lost?  
Through His love our hearts can feel all the grief they bear.  
They must hear the words of life, only we can share.*

*Kim Shaw and Suzanne Ringer, duet*

CCLI# 332333074

## ***We Worship through Giving***

*We encourage you to continue giving tithes and offerings so that bills and ministries are supported. You may do this through our website ([oaklandchurch.com](http://oaklandchurch.com)), the Breeze app, texting “Give” to (803)599-3738, and using automatic drafts. If you need assistance with any of these methods, please contact the church office.*

## ***We Are Sent Forth to Share with Others***

**Service and Fellowship of the Church**

**Benediction**

Mrs. Shaw

**Postlude**

