

The Worship of God

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2020

We Gather in God's Presence

Prelude

arr. by Robert MacDonald

Breathe on Me, Breath of God
Rev. Suzanne Ringer, piano and Mr. John Posey, organ

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.

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

Mrs. Susan York

Grace and peace to you from the who is, who was, and who is to come.
There is one body and one spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord,
one faith, one baptism, one God, Creator of all, who is above all and through all and in all.
Each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gifts.
Christ appointed some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers.
Christ did this to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, and for serving a broken world.
And, so, we come together in oneness of faith and in certain knowledge of the Son of God.
We come to bring glory to God only, and to celebrate God's gracious gifts to all.
In this spirit of unity and service, let us worship God.

Hymn of Response 653 (Stanza 1)

BEECHER

Lord, You Give the Great Commission
*Lord, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the Church neglect its mission and the Gospel go unheard,
Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity;
With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.*

We Hear God's Word and Pray

Scripture

Mrs. Erica Smith

Acts 24:24-27

Some days later when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, he sent for Paul and heard him speak concerning faith in Christ Jesus. And as he discussed justice, self control, and the coming judgment, Felix became frightened and said, "Go away for the present; when I have an opportunity, I will send for you." At the same time he hoped that money would be given him by Paul, and for that reason he used to send for him very often and converse with him. After two years had passed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus; and since he wanted to grant the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison.

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

Prayers for the People

Mrs. Leigh Reynolds



Lord, Here Am I

*Master, Thou callest, I gladly obey; only direct me, and I'll find Thy way.
Teach me the mission appointed for me, what is my labor, and where it shall be*

Refrain:

Master, Thou callest, and this I reply, "Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."

*Willing, my Savior, to take up the cross; willing to suffer reproaches and loss.
Willing to follow, if Thou wilt but lead; only support me with grace in my need. (Refrain)*

*Living, or dying, I still would be Thine; yet I am mortal while Thou art divine.
Pardon, whenever I turn from the right; pity, and bring me again to the light.*

Rev. Ben Lucas, baritone

We Grow from God's Word

We Respond to God's Word

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

*Lord, you call us to your service; "In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each,
Give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community;
With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.*

Service of Installation for New Deacons

*Alice Davis, Julie Griffin, Miller Hoffman, Mackie Hunter, Dennis Jordan, Jerry Lucas, Lydia Maloney, Jim Ringer,
Frank Snyder, Angela Williams*

Minister: You have been elected, in due and proper manner, to the office of Deacon. Having been asked by the church to serve and placed in this position by virtue of God and church governance, you have signified your willingness to work in this capacity. As a representative of the church, I now proceed in your installation in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Forasmuch as you have shown your willingness to assume the responsibilities of this office, and because the office is of such high importance to the life of our church, I must put you to the test of certain questions:

Do you believe in God who redeems us through Christ the Son in the power of the Holy Spirit and do you confess anew Christ as your Savior and as the Head of the Church which is Christ's body?

Deacons: I do so believe and confess.

Minister: Do you believe the scripture of the Old and New Testament to be the Word-of-God-Written, the inspired sourcebook and guide for faith and practice?

Deacons: I do so accept and promise.

Minister: Do you promise, by word and by example, to promote the peace, the unity, and the work of the Church and this church?

Deacons: I do so promise.

Minister: As a representative of the church, I hear your commitment to the trust and responsibility of being servants of the church. We, as a fellowship of believers, commit ourselves to Christian service in partnership with you. We will pray for you, support you, and follow your leadership and the decisions you make by the giving of our time, resources, and finances to the church. We also pledge to promote you in our words and encourage you in our actions.



Hymn of Response 653 (Stanza 3)

BEECHER

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

*Lord, you bless the words assuring: "I am with you to the end,."
Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend,
And, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity;
With the spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.*

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), 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. Kim Shaw

Postlude

