

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 26, 2008

DRAWN INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

In Preparation for Worship

"At the height of theological rationalism in the eighteenth century, the much-misunderstood Puritan theologian, Jonathan Edwards suggested that the apprehension of beauty, what he called 'the divine and supernatural light,' was the pathway to true Christianity, and the only possible antidote to intellectual and spiritual aridness." — Diana Butler Bass

Chiming of the Hour (*We gather for worship*)

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "How Fair and Pleasant Art Thou"

Marcel Dupre

Choral Introit "In the Time of Trouble Shall He Hide Me"

John Beck

***Call to Worship** From *Psalms 104* Liturgist

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

People: You stretch out the heavens like a tent, you set the beams of your chambers on the waters, you make the clouds your chariot, you ride on the wings of the winds.

Leader: You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use, to bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the human heart, oil to make the face shine, and bread to strengthen the human heart.

People: All look to you to give them food in due season. May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in all of these works.

Leader: Let us worship God.

***Hymn #458**

Earth and All Stars DEXTER

*Call to Confession

God is sheer mercy and grace; not easily angered, but rich in love. God doesn't endlessly nag and scold, nor pay us back in full for our wrongs. As parents feel for their children, God feels for those who trust in heavenly grace.

*Public Confession

Loving God, our Savior Jesus Christ comes to us with forgiveness and reconciliation. He welcomed children to his knee. He touched the untouchable. He shared good news with the poor, a new day of abundance where all were included. We have fallen short of following in his way. We have harbored bitterness in our souls, coveted our neighbor's household, lacked in faith and imagination as disciples of our Lord Jesus. Forgive us, freeing us to walk new paths. Hear us also as we confess in silence.

*Silent Confession

*Declaration of Forgiveness

Leader: As high as heaven is over the earth, so strong is God's love for those who trust in divine forgiveness.

People: As far as the sunrise is from sunset, God has separated us from our sins.

Leader: Friends believe the good news of Jesus Christ.

People: We are forgiven. Let us give glory to God.

***Response of Praise** (*All Sing*) Bless the Lord, My Soul

Taize

*The Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

LISTENING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Moment with the Children

Jessica McClure Archer

Prayer for Understanding

*Let us trust in the Lord, with all our hearts and lean not on our own understanding.
When we acknowledge God, in all our ways, God will make straight our paths. Amen.*

Children's Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:5

Read by Catherine Slupe

Children 6 years old & under may be taken downstairs after the "Moment with the Children."

[After the Moment with the Children the Ushers will collect your yellow Prayer Request Cards along the center aisle.]

Hymn #267

All Things Bright and Beautiful

ROYAL OAK

Prayer for Illumination

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O LORD, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

First Reading

Romans 8:19-21

Anthem

"My God is an Awesome God"

Second Reading

Psalms 104

Sermon

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Dr. David Milam

RESPONDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

***Affirmation of Faith Jesus' Beatitudes – Matthew 5:3-10**

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Presentation of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"Ariosio"

J.S. Bach

*Doxology – Hymn #592

OLD HUNDREDDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

[Please sign and pass along the Friendship Sheets as a means of getting better acquainted with your fellow worshippers today.]

ABIDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE IN THE WORLD

*Hymn #473

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude ""

* - Those who wish to, may stand. î - Latecomers may be seated.