



## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
September 20, 2020 – 11:00 a.m.

### THE GATHERING

#### PRELUDE

*Beach Spring*  
Austin Memorial Handbells

arr. John Matheny

#### WELCOME

#### PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

#### \*HYMN 63

*The Lord Is God*  
Stanzas 1, 2, and 3  
*Hymn can be found on page 5 of bulletin*

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#### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

#### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Read in unison)*

**God of justice, in baptism you anointed us to live boldly in the reality of your coming kingdom. We confess that we have not fulfilled our calling. We have not used your power to serve our neighbors. We have walked away from oppression and injustice. We have turned our backs on your beloved children who hunger and thirst in a world of plenty. Forgive us, Lord. Make us courageous servants of your justice, peace, and wholeness. In Jesus' name.**

*(Time for silent prayer)*

#### \*RESPONSE

*Yih'yu L'ratzon (May the Words of My Mouth)*  
Jim Rittenhouse, soloist; The Octet; Marsha Roberts, piano

Gershon Kingsley

*Yih'yu L'ratzon imreyfee v'begyon libi l'fanecha, Adonai tzuri v'goalee. Amen.*

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable unto Thee,  
O God, my rock and redeemer. Amen.

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*RESPONSE**

*The Lord Is God*  
Stanza 4

AZMON

**The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thanks and praise  
To God, the maker of all things and giver of our days.**

**THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Lorie Williamson

**THE STORY OF JOSHUA**

*Read by* the Weekday School's Red Room Kindergarten Class

**HYMN 458**

*Thy Word Is a Lamp Unto My Feet*  
*Hymn can be found on page 6 of bulletin*

THY WORD

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Joshua Chapters 2 & 6  
Selected Verses

**SERMON**

*Glory Days*

Rev. Steve Jester

**THE RESPONSE**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*from A Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

**MUSICAL REFLECTION**

*Even When God Is Silent*  
The Octet

Michael Horvit

I believe in the sun even when it is not shining.  
I believe in love even when feeling it not.  
I believe in God even when God is silent.

## LIFE OF THE CHURCH

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(Read responsively)*

“Almighty God, hear our prayer...”

*The Lord's Prayer*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## THE SENDING

### \*HYMN 49

*The God of Abraham Praise*

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Stanzas 1 and 2

*Hymn can be found on page 7 of bulletin*

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

LEONI

T. Tertius Noble

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## IN WORSHIP TODAY

**THIS MORNING** we are honoring our worship heritage as well as our friends in the Jewish faith who are celebrating High Holy Days. Our hymns and anthems reflect traditional worship of the Jewish faith, reminding us of the faithful God who called Abram, and who still calls us today. Our musicians will present a setting of the Silent Devotion (*"May the words of my mouth"*), and a beautiful setting of *"Even When God Is Silent,"* an inscription on the wall of a cellar in Cologne where a number of Jews hid themselves for the entire duration of World War II.

**SERMON SERIES** - Today we continue our new six-week series *"Stories I thought I knew..."* by exploring with new eyes the story of Joshua. Many thanks to Kelly Gant and the Weekday School's Red Room Kindergarten Class for recounting the story today. Next week we will hear again the story of Zacchaeus from Luke's gospel.

### OUR MUSIC AND PRODUCTION

Marsha Williams Roberts, organist; The Octet of the Sanctuary Choir; Jim Rittenhouse, soloist  
Evan Vicic, audio/video technician; Elder Nicholas Moloney, video; Virginia Fortner, editing.

**Austin Memorial Handbells:** *Jim Rittenhouse, director - Ricky Case, Elizabeth Clay, Lindsay Cook, Bonnie Boram, Karen Hadley, Jean Herp, Diana Jester, Katharine Miller.*

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## **WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER**

Sue Rogers and her family on the death of her uncle, Wayland Rogers, 9/9/20.

Charles Bond and his family on the death of his brother, Rob Bond.

Jason Cook, Lindsey Cook, and their family on the death of Jason's grandmother, Jeanette Wilson, 8/19/20

Don Smith, Sr., Don Smith, Jr., and their family on the death of wife and mother Marian Smith, 8/10/20.

Lamoine Cash and her family on the death of her aunt, Rev. Dr. Nancy Holden, 8/01/20

Eric Lehmann and his family on the death of his sister, Donna Metzler, 7/29/20.

Louise Seiler and her family on the death of Louise's sister, Betty Lette, 7/16/20.

Rick Farrow on the death of his mother, 7/13/20, and brother, 7/13/20.

Ricky Case and his family on the death of his father, Richard Case, 7/10/20.

The family of Beverly Wagner on her death, 7/5/20.

## **THE MINISTRY TEAM**

Rev. Steven P. Jester, Pastor

Rev. Nathan Sautter, Assoc. Pastor for Community Life

Rev. Jordan Akin, Assoc. Pastor for Youth

Jim Rittenhouse, Director of Music Ministries

Paula S. Roberts, Organist Emerita

Lorie Williamson, Director of Children's Ministries

Hayley Abell, Director of Weekday School

Christina Recktenwald, Children's Choirs Coord.

Ricky Case, Children's Choirs Coord.

Elizabeth Clay, Parish Associate

# The Lord Is God

63

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 1 The Lord is God, the Lord a-lone! Give hon-or, thanks, and praise; 2 With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and might; 3 At night or day, at home, a-way, to-geth-er and a-part; 4 The Lord is God, the Lord a-lone! Give hon-or, thanks, and praise. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment with the lyrics: to God, the mak-er of all things and giv-er of our days. O peo-ple, love the Lord your God, the source of truth and light. O chil-dren, take these ho-ly words and keep them in your heart. to God, the mak-er of all things and giv-er of our days.

This hymn paraphrases the *Shema* (Deuteronomy 6:4–9), an ancient and central affirmation of Jewish monotheistic faith that observant Jews still recite twice a day. Jesus knew it well and called it the first and great commandment (Matthew 22:38/Mark 12:28–29/Luke 10:26–28).

TEXT: David Gambrell, 2011  
MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839  
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AZMON  
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# Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet 458

*Refrain*

Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my  
 path. Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a  
 light un-to my path. *Fine* When I feel a-fraid, and I  
 think I've lost my way, still you're there right be - side me.  
 Noth-ing will I fear as long as you are near.  
 Please be near me to the end. *Dsus D7 to Refrain*

The refrain of this 20th-century song is a quotation of Psalm 119:105 in the King James Version. That longest of all psalms celebrates the gift of God's law by accumulating many synonyms for it. In Christian practice, this verse has been used to give thanks for all Scripture.

# 49 The God of Abraham Praise

1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a-bove,  
 2 Your spir-it still flows free, high surg-ing where it will.  
 3 Your good-ly land we seek, with peace and plen-ty blest,  
 4 You have e-ter-nal life im-plant-ed in the soul;

the An-cient of E-ter-nal Days, the God of love!  
 In proph-et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.  
 a land of sa-cred lib-er-ty and Sab-bath rest.  
 your love shall be our strength and stay, while a-ges roll.

The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed,  
 Es-tab-lished is your law, and change-less it shall stand,  
 There milk and hon-ey flow, and oil and wine a-bound,  
 We praise you, liv-ing God! We praise your ho-ly name:

we bow be-fore your ho-ly name, for-ev-er blest.  
 deep writ up-on the hu-man heart by your strong hand.  
 and trees of life for-ev-er grow with mer-cy crowned.  
 the first, the last, be-yond all thought, and still the same!

Shaped by its traditional Jewish tune, this selection of English stanzas conveys the essence of the *Yigdal*, a canticle based on a medieval Hebrew statement of faith about the nature of God and often used in synagogue worship, alternately chanted by cantor and congregation.

TEXT: Moses Maimonides, 12th cent.; vers. Daniel ben Judah Dayan, 1404; stanzas 1, 3, trans. Thomas Olivers, c.1770, alt.; LEONI  
 stanzas 2, 4, trans. Max Landsberg, Newton M. Mann, and William C. Gannett, 1884, 1910, alt. 6.6.8.4.D  
 MUSIC: Jewish melody, 17th cent.; adapt. Meyer Lyon and Thomas Olivers, 1770