

Worship on August 23, 2020

PRELUDE Here I Am to Worship – Lloyd Larsen

WELCOME

MEDITATION What a Friend We Have in Jesus – Larry Shackley

INTROIT #334 (verse 1) With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 138)

We give thanks to God with our whole heart.

We give thanks for God's steadfast love and faithfulness!

Though high above all things, God sees the lowly.

Even when we are in deep trouble,

God makes us live again.

The love of God lasts forever!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Even from a place of exile, from a position of despair, we trust, O God, in your power:

to return and restore us,

to enliven and empower us,

to soothe and to save us.

You can turn a desert into Eden,

sorrow into joy,

and silence into singing.

The heavens may vanish above

and the earth dissolve underneath,

but your salvation is forever.

We wait for you, O God,

attentive and hopeful,

for with you, deliverance is always possible.

In Christ, we pray. Amen.

HYMN #320 The Church of Christ in Every Age

CALL TO CONFESSION

Brothers and sisters, with hope in the mercies of God, we confess our sins before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have conformed our lives to the ways of the world and not the ways of your kingdom.

We think of ourselves too highly and regard others as lowly.

We exalt possessions and power, when you alone are to be exalted.

We let conflicts prevail over grace and divisions over harmony.

Have mercy upon us, we pray.

Forgive and transform us, that we may be holy and acceptable to you, discerning and doing your will.

(Pause for silent confession...)

Through Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (From Psalm 138)

The steadfast love of the Lord never ends. When we call out to God, God answers. **God saves us with a strong and outstretched hand. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and helped to live in grace. Amen.**

SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

SPECIAL MUSIC 7272 (verses 1,2,5) Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 51:1–6

GOSPEL Matthew 16:13–20

EPISTLE Romans 12:1–8

SERMON Having What It Takes

AFFIRMATION of FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. AMEN.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN #700 (verses 1,2,3) I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Great God of Might and Glory – David Paxton

