


**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
June 30, 2024**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

 **Call to Worship** (*Responsively*) *Jim Fox*

We will give thanks to you, O LORD, with our whole heart;
we will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

**We will be glad and exult in you;
we will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**

—from Psalm 9:1-2, NRSV

 **Invocation** *Jim Fox*

LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory
in the heavens.

Through the praise of children and infants
you have established a stronghold against your enemies,
to silence the foe and the avenger.

—Psalm 8:1-2, NIV

 **Opening Song** *Blessed Be Your Name*

Verse 1

*Blessed be Your Name in the land that is plentiful;
Where Your streams of abundance flow, blessed be Your Name.*

Verse 2

*Blessed be Your Name when I'm found in the dessert place,
When I walk through the wilderness, blessed be Your Name.*

Pre-Chorus

*Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise;
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say:*

Chorus

*Blessed be the Name of the Lord, blessed be Your Name.
Blessed be the Name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious Name.*

Verse 3

*Blessed be Your Name when the sun's shining down on me;
When the world's all as it should be, blessed be Your Name.*

Verse 4

*Blessed be Your Name on the rod marked with suffering:
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be Your Name.*

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Bridge (2x)

*You give and take away, You give and take away.
My heart will choose to say: Lord, blessed be Your Name.*

Chorus (2x)

Confessing *God invites us to be honest with Him*

Call to Confession

Jim Fox

Seeing that we have a great High Priest who has entered the inmost heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us therefore approach the throne of grace with fullest confidence, that we may receive mercy for our failures and grace to help in the hour of need. In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.

—based on Hebrews 4:14, 16

Prayer of Confession

Jim Fox

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and turn them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Jim Fox

Remember these things, O Jacob,
and Israel, for you are my servant;
I formed you, you are my servant;
O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me.

I have swept away your transgressions like a cloud,
and your sins like mist;
return to me, for I have redeemed you.

—Isaiah 44:21-22, NRSV

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation Do good and share what you have, for such
sacrifices are pleasing to God.

—from Hebrews 13:16, NRSV

Offering

Offertory

Dan Baker

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.

Prayer of Dedication

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you
have first given us—our selves, our time, and our
possessions—signs of your gracious love. Receive them for
the sake of him who offered himself for us—Jesus Christ, our
Lord. **Amen.**

Preparation Hymn 382

Be Thou My Vision

Proclaiming

God speaks to us through His Word

Scripture Reading

Genesis 15:1-21

15 After these events, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:

Do not be afraid, Abram.
I am your shield;

your reward will be very great.

² But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what can you give me, since I am childless and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ Abram continued, "Look, you have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house will be my heir."

⁴ Now the word of the LORD came to him: "This one will not be your heir; instead, one who comes from your own body will be your heir." ⁵ He took him outside and said, "Look at the sky and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "Your offspring will be that numerous."

⁶ Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

⁷ He also said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess."

⁸ But he said, "Lord GOD, how can I know that I will possess it?"

⁹ He said to him, "Bring me a three-year-old cow, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon."

¹⁰ So he brought all these to him, cut them in half, and laid the pieces opposite each other, but he did not cut the birds in half. ¹¹ Birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away. ¹² As the sun was setting, a deep sleep came over Abram, and suddenly great terror and darkness descended on him.

¹³ Then the LORD said to Abram, "Know this for certain: Your offspring will be resident aliens for four hundred years in a land that does not belong to them and will be enslaved and oppressed. ¹⁴ However, I will judge the nation they serve, and afterward they will go out with many possessions. ¹⁵ But you will go to your ancestors in peace and be buried at a good old age. ¹⁶ In the fourth generation they will return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure."

¹⁷ When the sun had set and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch appeared and passed between the divided animals. ¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "I give this land to your offspring, from the Brook of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates River: ¹⁹ the land of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, ²⁰ Hethites, Perizzites, Rephaim, ²¹ Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites, and Jebusites."

Sermon

"The Covenant"
Rev. Tim Latham



Song of Response

Jesus, Firm Foundation

Verse 1

*How firm a foundation you saints of the Lord
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word
What more can He say than to you He has said
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled*

Verse 2

*Fear not He is with us O be not dismayed
For He is our God our Sustainer and Strength
He'll be our Defender and cause us to stand
Upheld by His merciful almighty hand*

Chorus
How firm our foundation
How sure our salvation
And we will not be shaken
Jesus firm foundation

Verse 3
The soul that is trusting in Jesus as Lord
Will press on enduring the darkest of storm
And though even hell should endeavor to shake
He'll never no never no never forsake
He'll never no never no never forsake

Chorus

Bridge
Age to age He stands faithful to the end
All may fade away but
He will remain He will remain

Chorus

Responding
We respond to God's Word

 **Profession of Faith** *(In Unison)*

**We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

—from Romans 8:1, 28, 38-39, NRSV

Prayers of the People

Commissioning
God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

 **Commission Hymn 202**

Amazing Grace

 **Benediction & Blessing**

Postlude