



**Sunday, September 13, 2020**  
*15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

For those who are joining us online, know that improvements to our online services are in the works and will be happening as soon as possible. Please continue to be patient as we all grow into this new way of being.

Wherever you are, whether you are here in the sanctuary or watching this service remotely, let us now let the music of the prelude call us into our time of worship.

**PRELUDE**

*Morceau de Concours*

*Gabriel Faure*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Friends, let these words draw us deeper into our time of worship today. Though the storm clouds of doubt and fear threaten to overcome us, God leads us into the ways of peace. When the darkness of war and the deep pit of anger reach toward us, God lifts and carries us through the darkness with hope and light. Lord of hope and life, be with us today. God of mercy and peace, lead our lives. Let us worship God together.

**HYMN**

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

*Cwm Rhondda*

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this baren land. I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside. Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side. Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Mighty God, you spoke to your people in the pillar of cloud as they walked together in the wilderness. Speak to us through your Word today, that we may hear you calling us out of the wilderness places in our lives and into new places you have promised to show us. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Psalms 103: 1-13**

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The LORD works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

**Exodus 14: 19-31**

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So, Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus, the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So, the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

**ANTHEM***The Prayer**C. Sager/D. Foster*

I pray you'll be our eyes, and watch us where we go, and help us to be wise in times when we don't know:  
 Let this be our prayer, when we lose our way.  
 Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace to a place where we'll be safe.  
 Let this be our prayer, just like every child needs to find a place, guide us with your grace.  
 Give us faith so we'll be safe.

**PARABLE TIME****SERMON****"On the Way With God: Going Through The Waters"****Rev. Emma Horn****HYMN***Out of Deep, Unordered Water**Rustington*

Out of deep, unordered water God created light and land, world of bird and beast, and later, in God's image, woman, man. There is water in the river bringing life to tree and plant. Let creation praise its giver: there is water in the font.

Water on the human forehead, birthmark of the love of God, is the sign of death and rising; through the seas there runs a road. There is water in the river bringing life to tree and plant. Let creation praise its giver: there is water in the font.

Standing round the font reminds us of the Hebrew's climb ashore. Life is hallowed by the knowledge God has been this way before. There is water in the river bringing life to tree and plant. Let creation praise its giver: there is water in the font.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 on heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen"

**HYMN***There's a Wideness in God's Mercy**In Babilone*

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea. There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind. And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word, and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE***How Beautiful**Twila Paris***MUSIC LEADERSHIP FOR TODAY'S SERVICE****Genna Hahn** – Cantor/Soloist/Flutist**Donna Beech** -- Organist and Pianist