

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 10, 2021

Prelude

"Crowded Table" Elizabeth Worley, Heather Choplin, and Cathy Perkinson

Words and Music by Lori Mckenna, Natalie Nicole Hemby, and Brandi Carlile

You can hold my hand when you need to let go, I can be your mountain when you're feeling valley-low. I can be your streetlight showing you the way home, You can hold my hand when you need to let go.

Chorus:

I want a house with a crowded table, And a place by the fire for everyone. Let us take on the world while we're young and able, And bring us back together when the day is done.

If we want a garden, we're gonna have to sow the seed; Plant a little happiness, let the roots run deep. If it's love that we give, then it's love that we reap; If we want a garden, we're gonna have to sow the seed.

(Chorus)

The door is always open, your picture's on my wall. Everyone's a little broken, and everyone belongs, Yeah, everyone belongs.

(Chorus)

And bring us back together when the day is done.

Welcome Steve Rose

† Sung Call to Worship

"We Welcome One Another" GBC Children's Choir Words and Music by Christian McIvor ©2021

We welcome one another as Christ has welcomed us, For the glory of God!

We welcome one another as Christ has welcomed us, For the glory of God!

(cont'd next page)

A-hey-hey-hey, **a-hey-hey hey**, A-ho-ho-ho, **a-ho-ho-ho**, Each and every day, **each and every day**, Our love will grow, **our love will grow**.

We welcome one another as Christ has welcomed us, For the glory of God!

(Repeat)

† Opening Song

"Living Stones"

Words and Music by Christian McIvor ©2020

Come! See! Let your heart be set on fire. And go! Tell! Add your voice now to the choir. Join us as we sound the invitation To work to bring about a new creation.

Prechorus:

Here, we are answering our call; Every member equipped to bring light and hope to all.

Chorus:

We will bring God's reign near and in the love of Christ be led, Doing the Word, making it heard.

And all are welcome here, come to the table and be fed; From near and far, come as you are.

Here, you will never be alone.

In the glory of God, we're building a church of living stones.

Verse 2:

Open up your mind to transformation That offers justice, peace, and liberation. Growing as we honor our tradition; Together, we'll move forward in our mission.

(Prechorus, Chorus)

Children's Message April Alston

Prayers of the People Lilian Chan-Grant

Scripture Reading Luke 14:7-15 Kathy Deming

† Hymn "In Christ There Is No East or West"

ST. PETER; Words by John Oxenham, alt., Music by Alexander Robert Reinagle

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north, but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find; his service is the golden cord close-binding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be. All children of the living God are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north. All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

Silent Reflection

Sung Congregational Reflection

"Plenty Good Room"

WEARY LAND; African American Spiritual

Setting by Joel Raney

Plenty good room, plenty good room, Plenty good room in my Father's kingdom; Plenty good room, plenty good room, Just choose your seat and sit down.

Musical Reflection

"The Welcome Table"

GBC Adult Choir;

Georgia Schmidt, violin; and Sarah Page, cello

I'm gonna sit at the welcome table, O Lord, I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days. Hallelujah! I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days. And we'll break bread together on our knees.

I'm gonna feast on the bread of heaven, O Lord, I'm gonna feast on the bread of heaven one of these days. Hallelujah! I'm gonna feast on the bread of heaven, I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.

O, I'm gonna share my cup with Jesus, O Lord, I'm gonna share my cup with Jesus one of these days. Hallelujah! I'm gonna share my cup with Jesus, I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.

And we'll break bread together on our knees (one of these days). Yes! We'll break bread together on our knees (one of these days). When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

O, I'm gonna sing with the heavenly choir, O Lord, I'm gonna sing with the heavenly choir one of these days. Hallelujah! I'm gonna sing with the heavenly, with the heavenly choir, And I'll sit at the welcome table one of these days (one of these days), Gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days, one of these days.

Invitation Chrissy Tatum Williamson

† Closing Song

"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

BEACH SPRING; Text by Robert L. Edwards, Music from *The Sacred Harp*

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one. Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone. Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

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Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred: ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word. Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call, healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

Doxology

"Be Present at Our Table, Lord"

O WALY WALY; Words by John Cennick, alt., Music: English Folk Melody

Be present at our table, Lord, Be here and everywhere adored. These mercies bless and grant that we May live to love and serve but thee.

Celebrating Community

Anna Beth Mann

Benediction Paula Clayton Dempsey

Postlude "Plenty Good Room"
Tim Hendrix

African American Spiritual; arr. L. Larson

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Our Guest Preacher

Join us in welcoming our guest preacher, Paula Clayton Dempsey. Paula hails from Mars Hill, a place she and her family have called home for 30 years. Dempsey is retiring this fall as Director of Partnership Relations for the Alliance of Baptists after serving that organization for 12 years. Her other ministry experience includes serving as a local pastor, campus minister, director of a spirituality center, and as a hospice chaplain. We are honored to have her lead us in worship this morning.



Guest Musicians

We welcome and are grateful to have violinist Georgia Schmidt and cellist Sarah Page sharing their musical gifts with us this morning.

With Christ as the Cornerstone, we will build a church of living stones, where every member is a minister and is equipped to express God's love by word and deed to all people.

Based on I Peter 2:5, 6

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