

### A Service for the Lord's Day June 28, 2020 10:00 am 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

(Parts of the service in **bold** are for everyone to speak in unison.)

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Video

Prayer of Invocation

You do not want us to be ignorant of your dreams and hopes for this world, God of holiness, so you speak to us in parables, so we might pay careful attention to your words; you tell us stories about our grandparents in the faith, so we might become mentors to our grandchildren, and theirs. Filling us with the holy oil of generosity and grace, you make us ready to welcome Jesus Christ into the world, and to open our hearts to those who are in need.

Hymn 451

Open My Eyes, That I May See

(continued)

## Open My Eyes, That I May See 451



The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand Scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.

Scripture Reading Matthew 13:31-32

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

Sermon

Special Music I love to Tell the Story

Affirmation of Faith A Creed: The Mini-Parables of Jesus

We believe in the love-kindom of God, through Christ upon us, within us, beyond us.

We believe the love-kindom is like a mustard seed; sown in apparent insignificance, growing into magnificence for the greening of the world.

We believe the love-kindom is like yeast; inserted in humble insignificance into the dough of life, expanding into enough bread for the world.

We believe the love-kindom of God is like a treasure; lost and rendered insignificant under the ground, now found with joy and thanksgiving.

We believe the love-kindom of God is like pearls; all others become in insignificant when the largest, most beautiful pearl of all is found.

We believe the love-kindom of God is like a net full of fish; where even insignificant sardines are saved but worm-ridden barracuda are thrown away.

We believe in the love-kindom of God, through Christ upon us, within us, beyond us; where the meek and the poor, the merciful and the hungry, rejoice with the angels of God.

Loving God, we believe; scatter our unbelief..

Pastoral Prayer

Confessional Litany

As sabers rattle in lands both close and distant we confess that we are in pain, fear has taken root in the souls of our being.

Even as we turn to the parables, familiar stories that we thought we loved, we find troubling stories offering ever more questions. Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, have mercy upon us.

(continued)

We are loathe to take account of the many ways in which we unwittingly profit from the machinery of war and greed.

Still we read the parables of Jesus which fly in the face of social convention offending those who dare to listen.

Christ have mercy,

Christ have mercy,
have mercy upon us.

Believing that we are insignificant, and at the same time fearful that we might become so, we are timid to use our voices to speak truth to a world of war. Now the parables of Jesus offer a new vision; now the servants dine and the masters serve, now the last becomes and the first becomes last.

Lord have mercy,

Lord have mercy,
have mercy upon us.

Hear the good news of the Story that no sheep is unworthy of rescue, no coin too small to be missed.

Hear the good news that love is stronger than hate and that this power is alive within you now and forever.

Amen.

### 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.

Hymn *7*14

God of the Fertile Fields

Charge and Benediction

**Postlude** 

Good Shepherd Staff

Bridge Pastor: Rev. Bethany Benz-Whittington
Choir Director: Sara Tyburczy
Office Admin: Teddie McConnell
Accompanist: Dr. Jonathan Morris



Greater awareness has enlarged Christian stewardship to develop new dimensions of concern for people in all parts of the world. Because we believe that it is God's will that the gifts we have received should be shared, this hymn concludes with that phrase from the Lord's Prayer.



# Good Stuff @ Good Shepherd



#### Dear Friends:

In our monthly meeting on June 18th, our Vision Team engaged in a deliberate, painful, and instructive conversation about racism in Denver Presbytery. As a result, the Team has determined that in order to have a future as a Presbytery, we must first focus on a study of the history of Denver, the Presbytery, and the systemic racism that undergirds every structure of American culture, politics and economics. This endeavor begins now and will continue through the summer, as together we turn to reading the books HOW TO BE AN ANTIRACIST, by Ibram X. Kendi, and WHITE FRAGILITY, by Robin DiAngelo. In September, we will assess our progress and give you a report on what we have learned. In the meantime, you will soon be hearing about antiracism training for the entire Presbytery.

The Vision Teams has agreed to take all the time this critical endeavor requires. We agreed that any vision for our Presbytery that we might contemplate cannot be of God if it does not include justice and equity for all people and people of color in particular. We agreed that we will not see who God would have us be unless we look through the lens of genuine desire for the well-being of our sisters and brothers who are African-American, Hispanic, Korean, Vietnamese, Burmese, Kenyan, Ghanaian, Congolese, Cameroonian, First Nation and Indian.

Now, more than ever, we need your prayers. Now more than ever, we need you to help our Presbytery become a city on a hill from which the light of God's love will shine forth as in Matthew 5:14-16:

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts is under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

If you would like to hear more about our change of course, please speak to any member of the Vision Team. Here are their names for your convenience:

Jason Whitehead, Wanda Beauman, Kendal Mullins, John Yu, Justin Spurlock, Vicki Terry, Nancy Dixon, Ian Cummins, Tim Mooney, Amanda Osenga, Michael McLane, Don Shrumm, Susan Boucher, Dani Hillyer, Lemuel Velasco, John Bell, Joe Mares, Jim Emig, Pat Queen, Kim Graber, Russ Kane, Evan Amo, gretchen Sausville, Olivia Hudson Smith, Joel Adams, Beth Carlisle and me.

Always hopeful,

Rev. Dana Hughes Transitional Presbytery Pastor Throughout the spring, there has been much discussion about how and whether the Elephant Rock Ride fundraiser for the ZMP could take place this year. The regular June time frame has been cancelled and rescheduled to October 11th. But in the meantime, faithful bike riders connected with Brighton First Presbyterian Church have planned an alternate shorter ride that will happen on Sunday, July 12th, beginning and ending at their church building. They are inviting other riders to join them. Stephen Chappell, who has been a rider in the race for many years, is excited about this new option, especially since he won't need to drive all the way to Douglas County Fairgrounds. David Wolters and Teddie McConnell have also signed up to participate in this race. Perhaps a few more of you in our congregation would like to join him, riding for Team Good Shepherd! Please contact Mary McCarron if you'd like more information about registering and creating your own fund-raising page. If you decide to do this, please let us know so we can support you!

If you'd like to support Stephen and/or David and Teddie, you may send a check to Good Shepherd, noting that it is for "Team Good Shepherd" with the name. You can also go online to their fundraising page or to their Facebook page to donate. Go to zimpartnership.org for more general information. Other questions? Please contact Mary McCarron.

The Men's Shed is tentatively planning to resume meeting August 3rd at the church. They'll be using current social distancing rules and wearing masks. If this changes, we'll let you know. Contact Tim Schneider for more information.



### Joys and Concerns

The construction project is under way. Contact Teddie if you need to enter the building regularly. (office@thegoodshepherd.org) Please be aware that Teddie is working remotely and checking phone messages frequently. Her hours are still Monday through Friday from 9 am to 2 pm, so please respect these hours. Thanks!

Please pray the family of Glenn Flyr, who passed away on December 30, 2019, for the family of Dick Kelly who lost his sister recently, for communities affected by COVID-19 here in the United States and throughout the world, and for our church, that it may thrive as it brings the good news to our area.

### Highlands Camp is Open for Household Groups!

Come for the Day!! Enjoy our beautiful site.

For \$5.00 per person you may enjoy a hike to the Hidden Room, challenge yourself to hike to Three Crosses for its magnificent view, spend time in meditation while walking the labyrinth, or just relax and enjoy the view from one of our porches.

Contact Sue Spencer to make your reservation today!
303-747-2888 or email her at sales@highlandscamp.org
For more information visit our website.
www.highlandscamp.org

