

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

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

Prayer of Invocation

Creator God, you have blessed us by making yourself known in the wonder of the world around us! In times and seasons, in family and friends even in birth and in death we feel the rhythm of your love surrounding us. We give thanks for your boundless energy, flowing to and through us by the power of your Spirit. We give thanks for the creativity and courage that spring from your power at work within us. It is with confidence that we seek your presence for this time of worship. Bring us home to your heart, O God, and fill us with new awareness of infinite care, coming forth from your Spirit. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.

Hymn 291

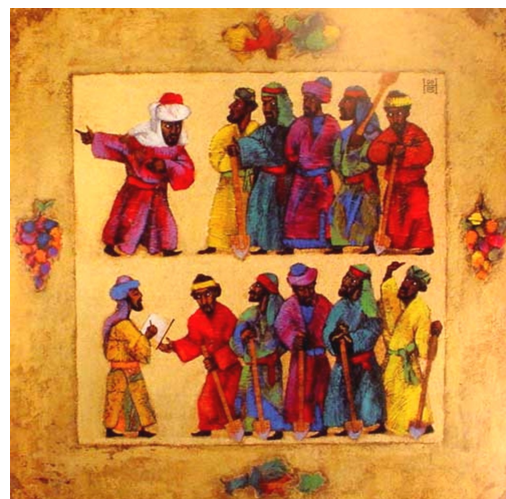
Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

(next page)

Scripture Reading

Matthew 20:1-16 (*The Message*)

God's kingdom is like an estate manager who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. They agreed on a wage of a dollar a day, and went to work. Later, about nine o'clock, the manager saw some other men hanging around the town square unemployed. He told them to go to work in his vineyard and he would pay them a fair wage. They went. He did the same thing at noon, and again at three o'clock. At five o'clock he went back and found still others standing around. He said, 'Why are you standing around all day doing nothing?' They said, 'Because no one hired us.' "He told them to go to work in his vineyard. When the day's work was over, the owner of the vineyard instructed his foreman, 'Call the workers in and pay them their wages. Start with the last hired and go on to the first.' Those hired at five o'clock came up and were each given a dollar. When those who were hired first saw that, they assumed they would get far more. But they got the same, each of them one dollar. Taking the dollar, they groused angrily to the manager, 'These last workers put in only one easy hour, and you just made them equal to us, who slaved all day under a scorching sun.' He replied to the one speaking for the rest, 'Friend, I haven't been unfair. We agreed on the wage of a dollar, didn't we? So take it and go. I decided to give to the one who came last the same as you. Can't I do what I want with my own money? Are you going to get stingy because I am generous?' Here it is again, the Great Reversal: many of the first ending up last, and the last first."



Sermon

A Story About Workers

Rev. Sheri Fry

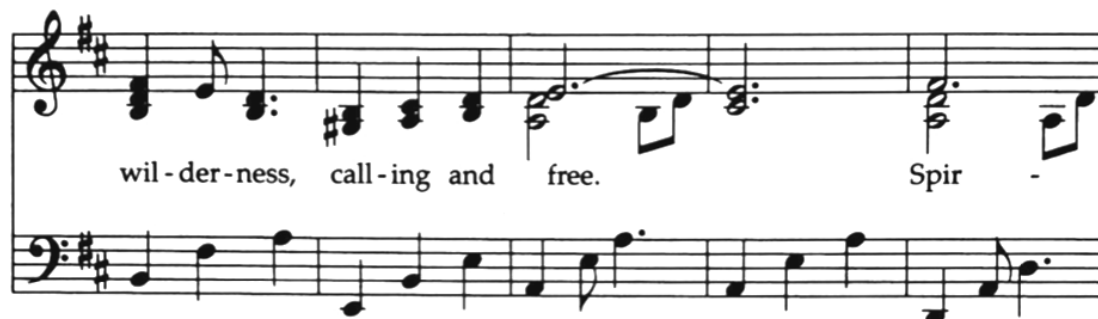
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291 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

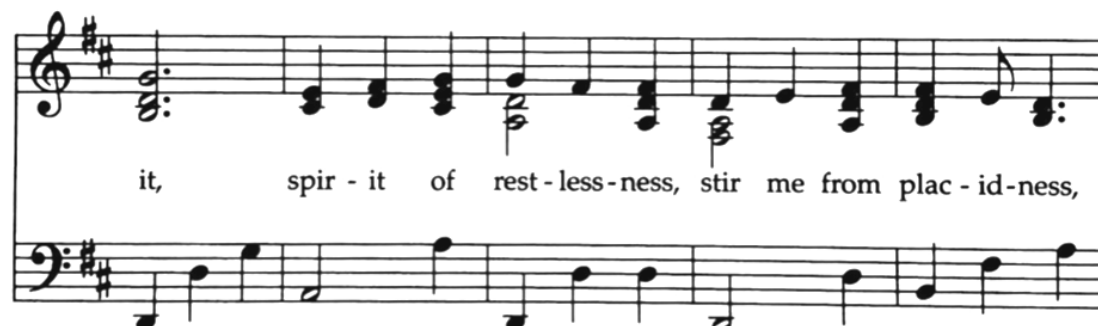
Refrain



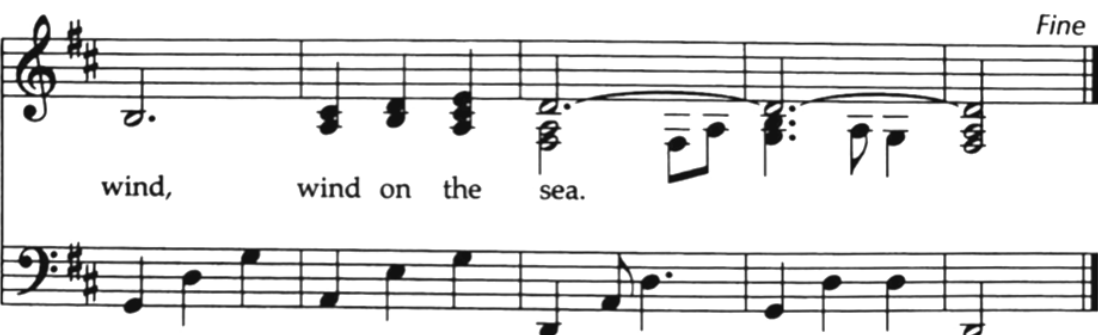
Spir - it, spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the



wil - der - ness, call - ing and free. Spir -



it, spir - it of rest - less - ness, stir me from plac - id - ness,



wind, wind on the sea. *Fine*



1 You moved on the wa - ters; you called to the
 2 You swept through the des - ert; you stung with the
 3 You sang in a sta - ble; you cried from a
 4 You call from to - mor - row; you break an - cient

deep;
sand;
hill;
schemes;

then you coaxed up the moun - tains
and you goad - ed your peo - ple
then you whis - pered in si - lence
from the bond - age of sor - row

from the val - leys of sleep; and o - ver the
with a law and a land. When they were con -
when the whole world was still. And down in the
the cap - tives dream dreams. Our wom - en see

e - ons you called to each thing,
found - ed with i - dols and lies,
cit - y, you called once a - gain
vi - sions; our men clear their eyes.

"A - wake from your slum - bers and
then you spoke through your proph - ets to
when you blew through your peo - ple on the
With bold new de - ci - sions your

to Refrain

rise on your wings."
o - pen their eyes.
rush of the wind.
peo - ple a - rise.

Affirmation of Faith ~ posted on The United Church of Canada website. <http://www.united-church.ca/beliefs/creed>

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.**

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

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 432

How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord

(next page)

Charge and Benediction

Sung Benediction

Go

Leon Patillo

Good Shepherd Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Sheri Fry
Choir Director: Sara Tyburczy

Office Admin: Teddie McConnell
Accompanist: Dr. Jonathan Morris

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord 432



- 1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
- 2 But if, for-get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
- 3 We mar - vel how your saints be-came in hin-dranc-es more sure:
- 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac-cord-ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re-freshed, re -
if world-ly pres-sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un -
whose joy - ful vir-tues put to shame the ca-sual way we wear your
in old rou-tines or ven-tures new, may we not cease to look to



stored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
wind its tan-gled skein of care: our in-ward life re - pair.
name, and by our faults ob - scure your power to cleanse and cure.
you: the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav-ored, done.

Good Stuff @ Good Shepherd



Dear Good Shepherd Members and Friends,

Let me take this opportunity to introduce myself to you one more time. I am thrilled to be your Interim Pastor and so very happy to be back home in Colorado. I spent the last year working as an Interim Associate Executive Presbyter in the Heartland Presbytery in Kansas City, Missouri. Although I learned a great deal about our denomination and all the mission and ministry that goes on behind the scenes (a bit like looking behind the curtain in OZ) I missed the ministry and mission that happens in a church on a daily basis and the relationships that are cultivated and deepened as we journey together.

I am also happy to be returning to the Denver Presbytery, where I have served on Presbytery Council, Committee on Ministry, and Chaired the Mission and Ministry Work Group and the Immigration Task Force in past years.

I am married to Brian Pendleton, CFO of Rocky's Auto, and we have three 20-something children in Denver and Venice, CA. C.J. – CEO of Matrixx in Venice, CA., Rory – Major and Planned Giving Officer at The Dumb Friend's League in Denver and Patrick – High School Teacher at George Washington High School in Denver, as well as our yellow Lab Maisey and our orange tabby cat Tom. We love to mountain bike, hike, scuba dive, and explore the world with family and friends. We all look forward to meeting you and discovering the gifts Good Shepherd has to offer!

I was at the church yesterday and got to see the Food Bank in action and meet some of the clients. I also spent time with the amazing Teddie McConnell, Office Administrator, and Mary Archuleta, Clerk of Session to learn about some of the details of life at the church.

Please note - my office hours will be Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Good Shepherd. I plan to be there unless I am meeting away from the church to share a cup of coffee/tea or a meal together with one of you.

Teddie McConnell's hours will be Monday, Thursday and Friday 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

I am working with Session to have a plan in place to open the church to meetings and small gatherings again. The staff and leadership are working on the details of safety protocols requiring face masks, social distancing and sanitizing procedures. We continue to be blessed to have the technology to proceed with worship, Bible study and service in the midst of these extraordinary and challenging times. We also can continue to proclaim, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8) Our relationships can continue to be nurtured and sustained with each other and our neighbors in the community as we live into the promises of our loving God.

God's rich blessings on you and yours as we journey through this fall season.

Peace,
Sheri



UPDATE FROM THE ZIMBABWE MISSION PARTNERSHIP

As you may already know, conditions in Zimbabwe have become even more difficult during the world-wide pandemic. Schools at the HCOC have been closed for many months, as have the feeding stations connected to them. Instead, staff members deliver food supplies to children's homes, where they have connected with the children and also discovered that many are experiencing neglect and abuse.

You will recall that the organizers of the annual Elephant Rock Bike Ride, the ZMP's traditional largest fundraiser for our friends in Zimbabwe, cancelled it in June. The smaller alternative bike ride on July 12 in Brighton was very successful (thank you, Teddie, David and Stephen!), but the \$40,000 donated was significantly less than the \$65,000 normally raised. Consequently, the ZMP Board decided that another fund-raiser is in order.

We hope the schools in Zimbabwe will reopen soon, which means the feeding programs will also resume. Costs will increase for those normal services and for additional services related to fighting the COVID19 virus. Also, UNICEF has sharply reduced the medicine it supplies to the Clinic.

Following is a list of some of the specific items and services that you have the opportunity to provide for the HCOC:

- \$20 will pay for Personal Protective Equipment for 10 children for 1 school term
- \$30 will pay for 1 child's school fees for 1 school term
- \$50 will cover 1 child-headed orphan family's food supplies for 1 month
- \$75 will provide 40 orphans with 1 month of meals at the feeding center by their school
- \$100 will cover the salary of a visiting doctor for 1 month
- \$120 will renovate the housing structure of 1 child-headed home
- \$150 will pay for AIDS medicines for 4 orphan children for 1 year

Or you may donate an amount of your choice for "wherever it's most needed".

If your heart urges you to participate in this funding for the HCOC, please write a check payable to Good Shepherd Presbyterian and note in memo that it is for the Zimbabwe Mission Partnership. God bless you! Thank you so much from the children in Zimbabwe!!

Joys and Concerns

Please pray for Barbie S. who had a knee replacement and Michelle W. who had cancer surgery last week. Both are resting at home; for communities affected by COVID-19 or by human rights violations 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.