

Order of Worship
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Congregational Updates

Carol Hargis

The Church Gathers for Worship

Prelude

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!
Greg Nunn, organist

Robert A. Hobby

***Responsive Call to Worship** (from Psalm 50)

Carol Hargis

One: "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"

Many: The heavens declare God's righteousness, for God is the only judge. Selah

One: "Hear, O my people, and I will speak, O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God. Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me.

Many: "Mark this, then, you who forget God, or I will tear you apart, and there will be no one to deliver.

One: Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honor me; to those who go the right way I will show the salvation of God."

***Opening Hymn 7**

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

ENGELBERG

***Unison Invocation**

Congregation

Spirit of justice, show us the challenge of your truth.

Teach us how to worship. Equip our voices for praise and our hands for the just work of your kin-dom.

Take away our false perceptions. Focus us, that our sacrifice of presence and prayer might be acceptable and authentic so that we gather with full joy and reverence at your table. Let your welcome table not be at the end of worship, but at the beginning of the endless feast that is promised through Jesus Christ who teaches us to pray saying:

***The Lord's Prayer**

Congregation

Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

**Please rise in either body or spirit.*

Children are invited to join children's leaders at the back of the Sanctuary for church school at this time. They are also welcome to remain with their parents.

Responsive Hymn 305

Lord, Listen to Your
Children Praying

CHILDREN PRAYING

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying'. It consists of three staves of music in 2/2 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn: 'Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your spir-it'. The second staff contains the second line: 'in this place; Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing,'. The third staff contains the third line: 'send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.' and ends with a double bar line and the word 'grace!'. There are two performance markings above the final measure of the third staff: '1 (optional)' and 'Final'.

Prayers of the People

Rev. John O'Neal

This bidding prayer form is modeled on Resolution 1521 (2015) from the General Board (DOC) on Gun Violence.

*After each bid, "In Christ's mercy" will be spoken and the congregation is invited to respond, "**Renew us and bring us hope.**"*

Hymn

God of Mercy, You Have Shown Us

BEACH SPRING

God of mercy, you have shown us ways of living that are good:
Work for justice, treasure kindness, humbly journey with the Lord.
Yet your people here are grieving, hurt by weapons that destroy.
Help us turn to you, believing in your way that brings us joy.

On a street where neighbors gather, shots are heard; a young girl dies.
On a campus, students scatter as the violence claims more lives.
In a family filled with anger, tempers flare and shots resound.
God of love, we weep and wonder at the violence all around.

God, we pray for those who suffer when this world seems so unfair;
May your church be quick to offer loving comfort, gentle care.
And we pray: Amid the violence, may we speak your truth, O Lord!
Give us strength to break the silence, saying, "This can be no more!"

Biblical References: Micah 6:8; Luke 1:79; Romans 12:15; 1 John 4:16-21; Matthew 5:9
Tune: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; attributed to Benjamin Franklin White ("God Whose Giving Knows No Ending") **(MIDI)**

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Email: carolynshymns@gmail.com New Hymns: www.carolynshymns.com/

Permission is granted for free use of this hymn in worship.

The Church Proclaims the Word of God

Scripture Reading	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20	Clayton Cunningham
Anthem	Offertory MHCC Choir	John Ness Beck
Gospel Reading	Luke 12:32-40	Clayton Cunningham
Sermon	"Fear. Fight or Flight"	Rev. John O'Neal

The Church Responds to the Word of God

Call to Giving Carol Hargis

Offertory Dolcezza
Greg Nunn, organist Percy W. Whitlock

***Response** Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God all crea-tures here be-low; praise
God a - bove, ye heaven-ly host: Cre a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost.

***Blessing of the Offering** Carol Hargis

***The Passing of the Peace**
As a sign of reconciliation with God and others, you are invited to greet those around you by offering the peace of Christ.

The Church Is Restored in Jesus Christ

Communion Hymn 410 Now We Come
Before God's Presence ST. PAUL'S

The Institution of the Table Don Manworren
Gluten-free crackers are available for communion in the white cups.

Prayer of Blessing Kathy Corporon

Communion Meditation Rockingham
Greg Nunn, organist C. Hubert H. Parry

The Church Goes into the World

Charge to Discipleship Don Manworren

***Closing Hymn 422** We Are Walking (3 verses) SIYAHAMBA
We are Walking in the Light of God...
We are Marching in the Light of God...
We are Singing in the Light of God...

***The Sending** Rev. John O'Neal

Postlude When in Our Music God is Glorified
Greg Nunn, organist Robert A. Hobby