

We Approach God

*Hymn of Praise

“Lavish Love, Abundant Beauty”

#61

The children are invited to come forward before going downstairs for their own time of worship.

**Lavish love, abundant beauty, gracious gifts for heart and hand,
Life that fills the soul and senses—all burst forth at your command.
Lord, our Lord, Eternal Father, Great Creator, God and Friend,
Boundless power gave full expression to your love which knows no end.**

**Who am I that you should love me, meet my every need from birth?
Why invest yourself so fully in a creature made of earth?
In your loving heart you planned me, fashioned me with greatest care;
Through my soul you breathed your Spirit, planted your own image there.**

**I am yours, Eternal Father, all my body, mind, and heart.
Take and use me to your glory, form yourself in every part.
Lord, your love brings joy and gladness flowing forth within my soul.
May my very breath and being rise to you, their source and goal.**

Children’s Blessing

Cheryl Johnston

Gift of Music

“Alleluja”

Sanctuary Choir

(Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart; Arr. Ruth Artman)

Call to Confession

Joel Russell-MacLean

Assurance of Pardon

We Listen to God

*Hymn of Preparation

“Christ Be Our Light”

(Osinachi Okoro; Arr. Dan Galbraith)

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,

Light for the world to see.

Refrain:

Christ be our light!

Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has pow'r to save us.

Make us your living voice. (Refrain)

Longing for food, many are hungry.

Longing for water, many still thirst.

Make us your bread, broken for others,

Shared until all are fed. (Refrain)

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us your building, sheltering others,

Walls made of living stone. (Refrain)

Many the gifts, many the people,

Many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another,

Making your kingdom come. (Refrain)

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 2:1-10 (pp. 166-167, New Testament section)

Responsorial Lesson: Psalm 112:1-10

Leader: Praise the Lord! Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.

All: **Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

Leader: Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

All: **They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

Leader: It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.

All: **For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.**

Leader: They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.

All: **Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.**

Leader: They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor.

All: **The wicked see it and are angry; they gnash their teeth and melt away; the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.**

*Gloria Patri

#623

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:13-20 (p. 4, New Testament section)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Does the Light Know It Is Light?"

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Respond to God

*Hymn of Response "Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me"
(*Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson & Michael Farren*)

What gift of grace is Jesus, my redeemer.
There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,
For my life is wholly bound to his.
Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing, "All is mine!"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark but I am not forsaken,
For by my side, the Saviour, he will stay.
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing,
For in my need, his power is displayed.
To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me,
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh, the night has been won, and I shall overcome!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven,
The future sure, the price it has been paid;
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,
And he was raised to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold, my sin has been defeated,
Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh, the chains are released, I can sing, "I am free!"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath, I long to follow Jesus,
For he has said that he will bring me home;
And day by day, I know he will renew me,
Until I stand with joy before the throne.
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,
All the glory evermore to him.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
"Yet not I, but through Christ in me."

Prayers of the People

Merv Hepting

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Our Gifts and Offerings

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Depart to Serve God

*Hymn for Departing "Transfiguration Hymn"

(Words: Ken Bible; Tune: "Guide Me, O, Thou Great Jehovah (CWD Rhondda))

**Jesus Lord, we see your splendour
Here and now by daily faith.
In our service, in our suffering
We will follow unafraid,
On from glory into glory
Till we see you face to face,
Till we see you face to face.**

*Benediction

Joel Russell-MacLean

Music for Departing

Xavier Russell-MacLean

Following the service, you are invited to the lower hall for "A Time for Friends"—an opportunity to fellowship with one another and enjoy some refreshments together

Parents: Please go to meet your children in the nursery and/or children's program, as they can only be dismissed into your care.

For live translation in French, Swahili, Punjabi, or Filipino (English also available for those having trouble hearing), scan here:



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