

240th Anniversary Celebration and Service ~ June 27, 2021

Welcome and Announcements ~ Cara Davenport

A warm welcome to each person who has come today
from near and far.

Thank you to everyone who has shared their gifts and time to
prepare for this special service.

We hope that you will enjoy looking at the historical displays in the
vestry and visiting with one another in the fellowship time
following the service.

On Tuesday, we will be having Prayer Group at 7 pm via zoom.

Thank you to Ray and Judy Koch for flowers
in loving memory of Jeanne Winfier.

Word of Preparation ~ Cara Davenport

Prelude ~ Barb West will play “Jerusalem, My Happy Home.”

Call to Worship ~ Rev. Bob Carpenter

“The Church in Mission” (#460) Please join for bold portions.
Gracious God,

we celebrate with thanksgiving your acts of creation,
your making all humanity in your own image,
and your presence throughout the world in all of life.

**We thank you for the gift of redemption in Jesus of Nazareth
in whom “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.”**

We rejoice that you have never, in any time or place,
been without witness.

We take joy in making known your deeds throughout the earth
and your transforming power in Jesus Christ.

**Be with your church in every time and place as we seek
to be faithful in witness to your power and love.**

**Give us strength to challenge all attempts
to deprive persons of their humanity.**

**Encourage us to support all who suffer
on behalf of justice and freedom**

**May your church always witness to the gospel’s declaration
of the uniqueness and value of all persons as your children.**

Call to Worship continued ~

We bless you for your everlasting love that impels us
to share the good news of Jesus Christ,
to witness to the ultimate hope for the world
in the fulfillment of your will on earth, and
to prepare the way for Christ
to be deeply known in each individual life.

**We pray in Christ Jesus that the church may forever
bring praise to you.**

**Work your power in us to do far more than we dare ask or think.
Amen.**

Choir Song ~ “Love Grows Here”

Greetings and Remembrances ~

Rev. Debbie Kamm’s letter read by Martha Thompson
Greetings from Rabbi Michael Cohen read by Ashley Hess
Remembrance from Rev. Dick Olmstead

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon ~

Martha Gale will lead us in saying this prayer together.

Heavenly Father,

**We look back at the history of our church with gratitude
for your faithfulness in sustaining us
as your witness in this community.**

**It is only by your grace that we stand here today
and join in this celebration.**

**Please forgive us for the times and ways
we have fallen short of your will for us,
thinking of ourselves before others,
acting for our own self-interest,**

**instead of letting our lives reflect your self-giving,
being stumbling-blocks**

**rather than stepping-stones on the way to others knowing You.
Purify our hearts, that we may let the light of your love shine
brightly through us.**

In Jesus’ holy name, Amen

Assurance of Pardon ~ Martha Gale

1 John 1:9 assures us that if we confess our sins,
You are faithful and just to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
We give thanks for your mercy and kindness, Lord.
May You lift up our heads and help us see
the path You have prepared for us to walk with You
as Your children, forgiven, loved and free.

Congregational Song ~ “God of Grace and God of Glory” #464

*God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power
Crown thine ancient church’s story, bring its bud to glorious flower
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour
For the facing of this hour*

*Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail they ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts to faith and praise
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days
For the living of these days*

*Cure thy children’s warring madness, bend our pride to thy control
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage lest we miss thy righteous goal
Lest we miss thy righteous goal*

*Set our feet on lofty places, fill our lives that we may be
Strengthened with all Christ-like graces
Pledged to set all captives free
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we fail our call from thee
Lest we fail our call from thee*

*Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore
Let the search for they salvation be our glory evermore
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore
Serving thee whom we adore.*

Words ~ Henry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, Music ~ John Hughes, 1907 | Public Domain

Praying Together ~

Space for prayer requests ~

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

Choir Song ~ “Faith to Carry On”

Remembrances from Former Pastors ~

Rev. Tom Rice’s letter read by Jim West
Rev. Rod Birney’s letter read by Jim Comar
Rev. Pat Crough’s letter read by Linell Pike
Rev. Joseph Huse sharing via zoom

Congregational Song ~ Worship Team ~ “Open up the Heavens”

Chorus

Open up the heavens we want to see You

Open up the floodgates a mighty river

Flowing from Your heart

Filling every part of our praise

We've waited for this day

We're gathered in Your Name

Calling out to You

Your glory like a fire awakening desire

Will burn our hearts with truth

You're the reason we're here

You're the reason we're singing

Chorus

Your presence in this place Your glory on our face

We're looking to the sky

Descending like a cloud You're standing with us now

Lord unveil our eyes

You're the reason we're here

You're the reason we're singing

Chorus

Show us, show us Your glory

Show us, show us Your power

Show us, show us Your glory Lord

(sing twice)

Chorus twice

CCLI Song # 6304702

Andi Rozier | James Macdonald | Jason Ingram | Meredith Andrews | Stuart Garrard

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Scripture ~ Matthew 13:31-35 (NIV) Dr. Aidsand Wright-Riggans

³¹ He told them another parable:

“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed,
which a man took and planted in his field.

³² Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows,
it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree,
so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”

³³ He told them still another parable:

“The kingdom of heaven is like yeast
that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour
until it worked all through the dough.”

³⁴ Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables;
he did not say anything to them without using a parable.

³⁵ So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet:

“I will open my mouth in parables,
I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.”

Sermon ~ Pastor Rebecca “The Mustard Seed and the Yeast”

Word of Encouragement and Renewal of our Church Covenant

~ Rev. Dale Edwards

Acts 2: 41,42, 44, 47

*“So then those who had received His Word were baptized and they
were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to
fellowship, and to the breaking of bread and to prayer...
and all those who were together had all things in common...
and the Lord was adding to their number day by day
those who were being saved.”*

Member of our church, please join in reading our Church Covenant:

**Having heard the gospel message;
and having been led as we believe, by the Holy Spirit of God
to receive Jesus Christ as our Savior; and having both professed
our faith publicly and been baptized in the name of the Father
and the Son and the Holy Spirit as a part of our faith journey,
we do now in the presence of God, His angels, and this assembly,
most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another
as one Body in Christ.**

**We promise, by the aid of the Holy Spirit,
to strive to forsake the paths of sin
and to endeavor to follow the paths of holiness.**

**In order to achieve this, we commit ourselves
advance this church in knowledge of Scripture and doctrine,
holiness and lifestyle, and the exercise of spiritual practices;
and to sustain its worship, ordinances, doctrine, and fellowship.
We also commit ourselves to devote time to God and speak with
our family members about how faith relates to life.**

**Furthermore, we vow that we shall each endeavor
to walk with integrity in the world, to be just in our dealings,
to be faithful in our commitments, and willing to share our faith
in order to advance the Kingdom of our Savior.**

**We further promise to walk together
in Christian love and watchfulness;
letting our love for one another
reflect the love that God has for us.**

**We shall endeavor to remember one another in prayer;
to aid each other in sickness & distress to the best of our ability;
to give and receive encouragement with sincerity and affection;
to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling;
avoid gossip and slander and bitter speech;
to avoid excessive anger and be slow to take offense;
using the practice of covenantal dialogue**

Church Covenant continued ~

**to promote courteous speech and reconciliation
in accordance with the rules of our Savior.
We also promise to make not just a spiritual
and relational covenant, but a material one as well.
We promise to promote the prosperity of this church
by contributing cheerfully and regularly
to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church,
the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel
throughout all nations.**

**We moreover promise that if one of us needs to remove himself
or herself from this place, that person shall unite
with some other church body as soon as possible,
where the spirit of this covenant
the truth of God's Word are carried forth.**

Song ~ "I Love Your Church, O God" # 274

*I love your church, O God, on earth your blest abode
The people our redeemer saved with his own precious blood*

*I love your church, O God, whose walls before you stand
Clear as the apple of your eye, and graven on your hand*

*In love my tears shall fail, in love my prayers ascend
To serve your church my toils be given, till toils and cares shall end*

*Beyond my highest joys, I prize your people's ways
The sweet communion, solemn vows, the hymns of love and praise*

*Sure as your truth shall last, to Zion shall be given
The brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heaven*

Words ~ Timothy Dwight, 1801 Music ~ Aaron Williams, 1770 | Public Domain

Reflection and Benediction ~ Rev. Betty Wright – Riggans

**Fellowship Time ~ Dr. Aidsand Wright – Riggans
will say the blessing before our picnic.**