

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SUNDAY,
AUGUST 30, 2020 – 10:00 AM**

Congregational responses are in **bold** type.

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude:

Announcements

Joys and Concerns

PRAISE

Call to Worship

Leader: Enter this time and place for prayer:

People: Open our hearts, O God, so we might receive you.

Leader: Incline your ear to the Lord:

People: Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

Leader: Listen for the word of God:

People: May our hearts and minds be open to You, and may we receive Your Spirit of wisdom and guidance in our lives, today and every day. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Loving Jesus, You have taught us how to live, to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we have rejected Your ways. We have sought our own way, thinking we know best, that we are most important. Forgive us of our selfishness and our self-centeredness. Call us into active repentance, seeking the welfare of those in need around us, and working for justice for the oppressed. For You lived Your life, gave Your life, and live again, all for us. In Your precious name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Jesus reminds us that it's how we live for others that is important. Seek forgiveness, repent and turn back to God, and know that God is always counting on us to do the right thing. Sometimes it takes some of us longer than others to figure it out, but God is there every step of the way with us, calling us back to the way God intended for us, an abundant life filled with hope. May we be filled with enough hope to bring it to others, in all that we say and do. Amen.

Hymn: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*"

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

all I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

A reading from Song of Songs 2.8-13

The voice of my beloved!

Look, he comes,
leaping upon the mountains,
bounding over the hills.

My beloved is like a gazelle
or a young stag.

Look, there he stands
behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows,
looking through the lattice.

My beloved speaks and says to me:

'Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away;
for now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth;
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtle-dove
is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away.

Message

Pastor Don Francois

“The Bible's Love Song”

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (sins)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.

WE PREPARE TO GO TO THE WORLD

Closing Hymn: *Blessed Be the Tie That Binds*”

1. Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love:
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.
2. When we are called to part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.

Benediction

Postlude