

SEASON OF PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

PRELUDE

Meditation
Stacey Hou

Flor Peeters

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Psalm 145:1-8

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness.

They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Mark Hayes

INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER

One: Our eyes are heavy.

Our hope is soaring.

We wait in the marketplace.

People: Our God is gracious.

One: Our feet are tired.

Our expectations rise.

We are hired first.

People: Our God is merciful.

One: Our backs are sore.

Our spirits are low.

We are paid last.

One: Our tempers flare.

Our anger rages.

We take what belongs to us.

People: Our God abounds in steadfast love.

Call all the laborers, O God, who woke early and who came late; who feel wronged and who feel overlooked; who have no employment and who can't feed their children with this wage.

Call your laborers who know they are working in YOUR fields.

Call your laborers who use their wage to increase your love.

Call all your laborers, O God,

Tell us to roll up our sleeves for we know that we have work to do.

Let us find you in the work we share here and now. We pray in the words Christ taught us to pray saying, 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.

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE read by Chris Writer

Philippians 1:21-30

It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way, but that by my speaking with all boldness, Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer.

I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Matthew 20:1-16

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others

standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

ANTHEM	<i>There Is A Season</i>	Berta and Sonja Poorman
SERMON	<i>Stay the Course in Love</i>	Rev. Cheryl Kerr
POSTLUDE	<i>Introduction</i> Stacey Hou	Flor Peeters

This week's service will be a LIVESTREAM Worship!!
Simply click the link below just before 9:45am Sunday, morning!
(no computer? Listen to the worship on your phone
by dialing the number below!)
OR watch the zoom worship live through our Facebook page.

**Join Zoom Meeting

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Meeting ID: 817 1329 0671