

**17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 19, 2021**

**Gathering
*God invites us to enter His presence***

Prelude

Meditation

Gradi

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

🕯 Call to Worship

Celia Weber

Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

**Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.**

Who is he, this King of glory?

The LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory.

Let us worship the Triune God.

🕯 Invocation

Celia Weber

O most merciful Redeemer, friend, and brother,
may we know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly,
day by day. **Amen.**

🕯 Hymn 262

Holy, Holy, Holy

**Confessing
*God invites us to be honest with Him***

Prayer of Confession

Celia Weber

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed

and sorry for all we have done to displease you. Forgive our sins,
and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, for the sake of
Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Celia Weber

I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me,
and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me.

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Gloria Patri

*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.
A-men, A-men.*

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation Let us give thanks to the Lord with all our being.
In the company of the upright, let us honor God for the
blessings and goodness we have received.

Offering

Offertory *Meditation from Thais* *by Massenet*

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

Prayer of Dedication

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first
given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions—signs of your
gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for
us— Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Proclaiming
God speaks to us through His Word

Children's Sermon

Willing to Serve

Celia Weber

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading

Exodus 3:1-12

3 Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ² And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. ³ And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." ⁴ When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵ Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶ And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ Then the LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹ And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." ¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" ¹² He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

Sermon

"God Provides a Calling"
Rev. Tim Latham

Responding
We respond to God's Word

 **Hymn**

Jesus, I Come

Out of my bondage sorrow and night
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into Thy freedom gladness and light
Jesus I come to Thee
Out of my sickness into Thy health
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth
Out of my sin and into Thyself
Jesus I come to Thee

Out of my shameful failure and loss
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross
Jesus I come to Thee
Out of earths sorrows into Thy balm
Out of lifes storms and into Thy calm
Out of distress into jubilant psalm
Jesus I come to Thee

Out of unrest and arrogant pride
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into Thy blessed will to abide
Jesus I come to Thee
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love
Out of despair into raptures above
Upward forever on wings like a dove
Jesus I come to Thee

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into the joy and light of Thy home
Jesus I come to Thee
Out of the depths of ruin untold
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold
Ever Thy glorious face to behold
Jesus I come to Thee

 **Profession of Faith**

**I am righteous before God
only by true faith in Jesus Christ.
Even though my conscience accuses me
of having grievously sinned against all
God's commandments,
of never having kept any of them,
and of still being inclined toward all evil,
nevertheless, without any merit of my own,
out of sheer grace,
God grants and credits to me**

the perfect satisfaction, righteousness,
and holiness of Christ,
as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner,
and as if I had been as perfectly obedient
as Christ was obedient for me.
All I need to do
is accept this gift with a believing heart.
When I say that through faith alone I am righteous,
it is not because I please God
by the worthiness of my faith.
It is because only Christ's satisfaction, righteousness,
and holiness
make me righteous before God,
and because I can accept this righteousness
and make it mine
in no other way than through faith.
—from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 60-61

Prayers of the People

Commissioning

God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

! Hymn 551 *Soon and Very Soon*

! **Benediction & Blessing**

! Postlude *Wings of Song* *Mendelssohn*