

**Sunday October 24, 2021
Let Me See Again**

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Announcements

Stewardship Moment

Mike & Carla Crompton

Call to Worship

Leader: Sing aloud with gladness:

People: God is gathering the people!

Leader: From the farthest parts of the earth we come:

People: All who struggle; all who labor with new life;

Leader: Those who are weeping, God will console;

People: Those who get lost find a clear path home.

Unison: Let us worship the God who gathers us!

Opening Prayer Unison

Ever-calling God,

**We give thanks that you have gathered us into your church
and graced us with your faithful presence.**

**We ponder our history, ancient and still developing,
and marvel at the many expressions of your church.**

**Grant us the vision to be a part of this new moment in your Church
that will bring ever more joy and justice to the world.**

**Continue to gather us, the diverse lot of us,
into Jesus' vision and dream**

that your faithful people may be one in you. Amen

Hymn #576: For the Healing of the Nations
(Please see separate attachment for the score)

Hymn Leader: Liisa Granfors-Hunt

1) For the healing of the nations,
God, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords;
to a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.

2) Lead us forward into freedom;
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.

3) All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.

4) You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind,
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.

Prayer of Confession **Unison**

**When we want to be a church open to your transforming love,
yet cling to comfortable ways have mercy on us.
When we want to honor your “still speaking voice,” but are fearful of
insights which challenge old assumptions: have mercy on us!
When we want to live into Jesus’ dream of oneness, but fail to listen to
voices of difference: have mercy on us!**

Moments for Reflection and Silence

Assurance of Pardon

Take heart, get up; Jesus is calling to us!
We trust in the one who has guided the church for two millennia.
Through Christ, God forgives us our failings,
and continues to call us into a community of mutual love and forgiveness.
Let us celebrate this mercy of God
by greeting each other with a sign of Christ's peace.

Passing of the Peace

Pastor: The Peace of Christ be with you
People: **And also with you!**

Reading

Marsha Voigt

Job 42:1-6, 10-12 (NIV)

42:1 Then Job answered the LORD:

42:2 "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

42:3 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.

42:4 'Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me.'

42:5 I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you;

42:6 therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

42:10 And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends; and the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

42:11 Then there came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and they ate bread with him in his house; they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the LORD had brought upon him; and each of them gave him a piece of money and a gold ring.

42:12 The LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand donkeys.

Jeremiah 31:7-9 (NIV)

31:7 For thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel."

31:8 See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

31:9 With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Special Music

Liisa Granfors-Hunt

Gospel Reading

Mark 10:46-52 (NIV)

10:46 They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside.

10:47 When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

10:48 Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

10:49 Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you."

10:50 So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus.

10:51 Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again."

10:52 Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Musical Interlude

Sermon: Let Me See Again

Music for Meditation

Prayers of the People

Hymn #537 Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed (verses 1 and 2)

**1) Christian, rise and act your creed;
let your prayer be in your deed;
Seek the right, perform the true,
raise your work and life anew.**

**2) Hearts around you sink with care,
you can help their load to bear;
You can bring inspiring light,
strengthen them to do the right.**

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer **Unison**

Offering Invitation

Our ancestors in faith and church-building
show us the way to share the gifts God has given us
with the whole community.
Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God
with heartfelt gratitude, commitment, and praise.

Offering and Dedication **Unison**

**Transform our lives, O God,
and let these gifts change the world into which we send them.
Take them and multiply them to be a blessing of justice and peace
in the world you love!**

Benediction **Unison**

**May the peace of God which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (*Philippians 4:7*)**