

PROVICENCE FORGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, June 28, 2020

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 100

Leader: Worship the LORD with gladness; come before God with joyful songs.

People: **Know that the LORD is God.**

Leader: It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

People: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;

All: **Give thanks to the LORD and praise God's name.**

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Vanderbilt Divinity Library

Through dreams and visions, O God, you broaden the horizon and hope of your people, that they may discover the meaning of your covenant, even in the midst of trial and exile. Increase the number of those who believe in your word so that all people may joyfully respond to your call and share in your promises. Amen.

SONG of PRAISE

**O worship the King, all glorious above!
O gratefully sing God's power and God's love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.**

**O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
The chariots of heaven the deep thunderclouds form,
And bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.**

**The earth with its store of wonders untold,
All mighty, Thy power hath founded of old;
Hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.**

**Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.**

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 18:1-15

18 The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day.

² Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground. ³ He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord,^[a] do not pass your servant by. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. ⁵ Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant." "Very well," they answered, "do as you say." ⁶ So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three seahs^[b] of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread." ⁷ Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. ⁸ He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

⁹ "Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him. "There, in the tent," he said. ¹⁰ Then one of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son." Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. ¹¹ Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. ¹² So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?" ¹³ Then the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' ¹⁴ Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son." ¹⁵ Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, "I did not laugh." But he said, "Yes, you did laugh."

ANTHEM – Great is Thy Faithfulness – Tom & Lisa Ballou

SERMON

Dr. Rev. Cindy Kissel-Ito

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by
the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the
third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,**

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

FOR CHILDREN John 2:1-5 (Easy to Read Version)

2 Two days later there was a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee, and Jesus' mother was there. 2 Jesus and his followers were also invited. 3 At the wedding there was not enough wine, so Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

4 Jesus answered, "Dear woman, why are you telling me this? It is not yet time for me to begin my work." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Do what he tells you."

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Seasons of Mercy

Everlasting God, from age to age and day to day, your love for us never diminishes. Your love knows no special season of abundance, nor awaits a favorable mood. You constantly enfold us with extravagant care. You desire that we simply accept this gift, making your love the center and anchor of our lives. How else shall we live if not grounded in your love? Anchor us, Lord, securely in your presence and fortify your people with unshakeable peace.

Great God, at every turn you speak to us. It is easy to attribute our sudden impulse to acts of compassion to our own goodness of heart. But who does not know that You are our prompter in the wings? You work through our laughter- you free us and empower us- making us vehicles of your grace.

Gracious God, open our prayers that they may encompass the circle of our relationships. We lift up those we have named in silent prayer: people and places in need of your strengthening care.

The provisions you give us for our life journey have always been simple: something to eat, a path to follow, a star to aim for. What you ask of us is equally simple: trust in you and trust in each other. The covenant between us is as simply beautiful as a rainbow spanning the sky. It is rough and sparse like the wood beams forming the cross. Wherever we go, whatever we do, remind us, God, of life's necessities: your great love for us, our love for you and the opportunity to cherish

each other. We pray in the name of your son, Jesus, who taught us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

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SONG OF RESPONSE – God Be with You Till We Meet Again

God be with you till we meet again; Loving counsels guide, uphold you, With a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you will we meet again; Unseen wings protecting hide you, Daily mana still provide you: God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again; When life's perils thick confound you Put unfailing arms around you: God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again; Keep Love's banner floating o'er you, Smite death's threatening wave before you: God be with you till we meet again.

BENEDICTION Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

The God of all grace restores, establishes and strengthens you. Go now, refreshed by the Holy Spirit, strengthened in all wisdom and love, established as God's child and disciple.

People: Peace be with you!