



Guest Minister: Sandra Kirby

Music Director: Steven Webb

September 4, 2022 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Proper 18

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Gathering Song

Let Us Build a House

MV 1 v 1,2,4

*Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place*

*Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place*

*Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place*

Worship Call

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

And also with you.

God is in us,

And we are in God.

We have gathered to worship God.

**We have come seeking comfort and refreshment,
inspiration and insight, community and friendship.**

We have come to open ourselves to the power of God's presence in our midst.

**We have come to offer up the seasons and the turnings of our lives, and to ask God's
help in our learning and in our growing.**

Let us worship God.

Candle Lighting

Acknowledging the Land

Sing

Bathe Me in Your Light

MV82

*Bathe me in your light, O God of All, Creator;
Let it shine upon my soul with healing and with grace.
Be to me a beacon bright through shadows of life's wounding,
Showing me the way to live in faith, in your embrace.*

*Bathe me in your love, O Source of Awe and Wonder;
Help me walk the sacred path of harmony and peace.
May I be attentive to the musings of your presence,
Drinking from the well of hope that brings the heart release.*

*Bathe me in your grace, O One of Spirit's longing;
Teach me of your gentle ways that fill the soul with strength.
Guide me on the pilgrimage that leads to truth and wholeness,
Fill me with your promise of a love that knows no length.*

Prayer of Approach

Psalm 139

VU 861 (RESPONSIVE)

O God, you have searched me and know me.
You know when I sit down and rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

**You discern my path and the places I rest;
you are familiar with all my ways.**

Before a word is on my tongue, you know it, O God, completely.
You guard me from behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

It is beyond my knowledge; it is a mystery; I cannot fathom it.

God, you have searched me, and you know me through and through.

Where can I escape from your spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

**If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I lie down in the grave, you are even there.**

If I take wing with the dawn and alight at the sea's farthest limits,

**there also your hand will be guiding me
your powerful hand holding me fast.**

If I say, "Let the darkness cover me and my day be turned to night,"
**even darkness is not dark to you: the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.**

God, you have searched me, and you know me through and through.

It was you who formed my inward parts;
you fashioned me in my mother's womb.

**I praise you, for I am fearfully, wonderfully made.
Wondrous are your works; that I know very well.**

My frame was not hidden from you when I was being fashioned in secret,
intricately woven in the mystery of clay.

**Your eyes saw my substance taking shape;
in your book my every day was recorded;
all my days were fashioned, even before they came to be.
God, you have searched me, and you know me through and through.**

How deep your designs are to me, O God! How great their number!

I try to count them but they are more than the sand.

I come to the end - I am still with you.

Search me, O God, and know my heart;

test me and know my thoughts.

Watch closely, lest I follow a path of error

and guide me in the everlasting way.

God, you have searched me, and you know me through and through.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Join with us, living God, as we meet around your word and reflect upon it.

Encourage us, inspire us. Amen.

Sharing Ancient Story Luke 14: 25-33

Gift of music

Impromptu No. 142 No. 2

Franz Schubert

Sermon

Sing

You, Creator God, Have Searched Me

MV 131

*You, Creator God, have searched me
and you know my ways.*

You perfectly understand me.

It's my cause of praise.

*I cannot escape your presence
in air, land or sea.*

*Your arms of love and protections
are always with me.*

You know me, O God, you have made me.

I am proud I'm the work of your hand.

In my waking and sleeping moments,

With my being I will praise your name.

*You created light and darkness
and you love them both.*

You blessed the womb of my mother

You brought me to birth.

*In your image and your likeness
Wonderfully made.
I will lift my voice to praise you,
You are God indeed.*

*You know me, O God, you have made me.
I am proud I'm the work of your hand.
In my waking and sleeping moments,
With my being I will praise your name.*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Responding to God and Community

Sing Response

What Can I Do?

MV191

*What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.*

Praying for people and the world

Sing

Oh a Song Must Rise

MV 142 v.1,3

Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend
Oh a song must rise once again
Singing out God's praises and glory, the faithful voices blend
Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend.

*From the mountains to the valleys,
From the desert to the sea,
A song must rise once again
From the voices of our leaders,
The voice of you and me,
A song must rise for the spirit to descend.*

Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend
Oh a song must rise once again
Singing out God's praises and glory, the faithful voices blend
Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend.

*From ev'ry house of worship,
In ev'ry faith and tongue,
A song must rise once again.*

*From the villages and cities
A new song must be sung,
A song must rise for the spirit to descend.*

Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend
Oh a song must rise once again
Singing out God's praises and glory, the faithful voices blend
Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend.

Benediction & Commissioning

And may the peace and light of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all.
Amen.

Sing blessing Go, Make a Diff'rence

MV 209

*Go make a diff'rence.
We can make a diff'rence.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.
Go make a diff'rence.
We can make a diff'rence.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.*