

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

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From the Pews, Jacob & Jade Fountain

There is a hymn we sing on occasion called “They’ll Know We are Christians (By Our Love).” Interestingly, the hymn was written by Peter Scholtes, a parish priest in Chicago during the Chicago Civil Rights Movement in the late 1960s. He was looking for a song for his youth choir to sing for some ecumenical interracial events. According to Wikipedia, the title of the hymn came from a phrase non-believers used to describe Christians of the early Church: “Behold, how they love one another.”

Behold, how they love another. Do you think, from the outside, a non-believer would say this today? Would they know we are Christians by our love?

1 Corinthians 13 lays out what love is (patient, kind), what isn’t (envious, boastful, arrogant, rude, selfish, irritable, resentful), and what it does (rejoices with the truth, bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things). In the midst of everything this year has thrown at us, we wonder, have we reacted with love? Have we shown our love to man and woman, old and young, black and white, rich and poor during this pandemic? Have we loved our neighbor as a new Civil Rights movement reaches a fever pitch?

In the face of all these recent challenges, let’s decide to love first, using 1 Corinthians 13 as our guide. Live, starting today, so that your legacy can be, “behold, how he (she) loved others.”



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, June 28, 2020 | online, 10:00a | Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



Prayer of Preparation

“Of God’s love we can say two things:
it is poured out universally for everyone...and secondly,
God’s love doesn’t seek value, it creates value.
It is not because we have value that we are loved,
but because we are loved that we have value.”
—William Sloane Coffin

Gathering and Preparing for God’s Word

Prelude	<i>Beautiful Savior</i>	Christiansen
Introit	<i>Surely</i>	Langston
Welcome and Announcements		
Sentences of Scripture, from <i>1 John 4:7-8, 12</i>		
Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.		
Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.		
No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.		
Let us worship God!		
Hymn #385	<i>All People That on Earth Do Dwell</i>	OLD HUNDREDDTH
See hymn sheet.		

Morning Prayers
The Lord’s Prayer

**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.**

Hearing God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination		
Gospel Lesson, <i>Luke 18:9-14</i>		
Epistle Lesson, <i>1 Corinthians 13:1-13</i>		
Homily	<i>“Without It, Nothing”</i>	
Anthem	<i>O Love</i>	Hagenberg

Responding to God’s Word

Affirmation of Faith, from *A Brief Statement of Faith*
We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God’s image
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God’s commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God’s condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.
Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

Prayer of Dedication		
Hymn #316	<i>Where Charity and Love Prevail</i> <i>(sung to the tune of Amazing Grace)</i>	NEW BRITAIN
See hymn sheet.		

Charge and Benediction		
Benediction Response	Gaelic Benediction	Ulrich
Postlude	<i>Toccata in E minor</i>	Pachelbel

Leading Worship this Morning

Ben Dorr, *preaching*
Leigh Stuckey, *liturgist*
Nancy Smith, *organist*
Katie Knauer, Diana Dailey, Derek Pitman, Mark Kemp, *quartet*

All People That on Earth Do Dwell 385

(Psalm 100)

1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the
 2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our
 3 O en - ter then his gates with praise; ap - proach with
 4 For why? The Lord our God is good; his mer - cy

Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his
 aid he did us make; we are his folk; he
 joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his
 is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times

praise forth tell. Come ye be - fore him and re - joice.
 doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
 name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
 firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

In a pairing that began in 1561, this paraphrase of Psalm 100 by a Scot is set to a tune that a French composer originally created for Psalm 134 in the Genevan Psalter of 1551. They have appeared together in nearly every comprehensive English-language hymnal since then.

Where Charity and Love Prevail 316

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
 2 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son.
 3 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
 4 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,
 5 Love can ex - clude no race or creed if hon - ored be God's name;

brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
 As mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.
 our com - mon life em - brac - es all whose Mak - er is the same.

This English paraphrase is based on a longer Latin hymn traditionally associated with the footwashing ritual on Maundy Thursday, an enactment of Christ's "new commandment" that we should love one another (John 13:34). For a chant setting of the first line of the hymn see no. 205.