

Order of Worship
September 17th, 2023 ~ 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements, and Peace

Call to Worship

For everything there is a season:

And a time for every matter under heaven:

A time to be born and a time to die.

A time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.

A time to break down, and a time to build up.

A time to weep and a time to laugh.

A time to keep and a time to throw away.

A time to be silent and a time to speak.

A time to love and a time to hate.

A time for war and a time for peace.

God has made everything suitable for its time.

God has put a sense of past and future into our minds.

God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him.

Whatever God does endures forever.

Amen.

~ Rev. Thomas Weitzel

Hymn of Praise

What A Friend We Have In Jesus

RH #630 (Verses 1-3)

Verse 1

What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer
O what peace we often forfeit
O what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer

Verse 2

Have we trials and temptations
Is there trouble anywhere
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the Lord in prayer
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Verse 3

Are we weak and heavy laden
Cumbered with a load of care
Precious Savior still our refuge
Take it to the Lord in prayer
Do thy friends despise forsake thee
Take it to the Lord in prayer
In His arms He'll take and shield
thee

Thou wilt find a solace there

Charles Crozat Converse, Joseph Medlicott Scriven
CCLI Song #27714

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Opening Prayer

The prophet Isaiah proclaimed—and Jesus embodied—God’s call to reach out and care for those who are brokenhearted and those who mourn, people who are abused and oppressed, who are powerless to make changes for good in their lives. The Spirit of the Lord empowers and anoints us to proclaim and to live out that same message—to lift up those who are downtrodden, to comfort those who mourn, to be bearers of the gospel in word and deed. **Amen.**

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Special Music

“The Climb” by Jessi Alexander and Jon Mabe
with “You’ll Never Walk Alone” by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II

Scripture Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:-8

NRSV

1 For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:
2 a time to be born and a time to die;
a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;
3 a time to kill and a time to heal;
a time to break down and a time to build up;
4 a time to weep and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn and a time to dance;
5 a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;
6 a time to seek and a time to lose;
a time to keep and a time to throw away;
7 a time to tear and a time to sew;
a time to keep silent and a time to speak;
8 a time to love and a time to hate;
a time for war and a time for peace.

Isaiah 61:1-3

NRSV

1 The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners,
2 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
3 to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

John 14: 27

NRSV

27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Grief Connects Us

The Rev. Dr. Mike Attas

Pastoral Prayer

Prayers of the People

Offertory

I Will Carry You
Michael W. Smith

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
Amen**

CCLI Song # 6115489

Thomas Ken

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Communion

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn

He Will Not Let Go
WS #86

Verse 1

It may take time on this journey slow
What lies ahead I'm not sure I know
But the hand that holds this flailing soul
He will not let go

Verse 2

There may be days when I cannot breathe
There may be scars that will stay with me
But the deepest stains they will be washed clean
And He will not let go

Bridge

When all around me soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay
When grief has paralyzed my heart
His grip holds even tighter than the dark

Verse 3

I've heard it said this too shall pass
The joy will come that the hurt won't last
So I will trust that within His grasp
I am not alone for He will not let go

Laura Story

CCLI Song #6040310

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Closing Prayer

I will never abandon you as orphans—I will come to you.
Even though the world will not be able to see me,
I will never vanish from your sight.
And since I live, you will also live. Let us go from here in the knowledge
that we do not go alone:
the power and presence of God goes with us.
Praise be to God!
Amen.

~ Christine Longhurst

Blessing

Postlude

Our love in action now begins

This Sunday's Special Music is brought to you by
Micha Schoepe & Paul Dankers..

Thank you to all of this Sunday's volunteers!

Altar - Sue de Campo

Greeters - Bob Wolfe, Sherri Goodwin, Dean
Goodwin

Reader - Bob Wolfe

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