



## CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### Communion

**July 4, 2021**

**Livestream**

**10:00 a.m.**

PRELUDE

**“Praise God, the Lord”**  
Randy Benfield

Walther

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Click [HERE](#) to register your attendance

Pastor Ivan N. Herman

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 123:1,3-4)

Bob Beckert

Leader: To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

**People: Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt.**

Leader: Our soul has had more than its fill of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

**People: Have mercy upon us, O Lord.**

HYMN

**“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”**

No. 298

# There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness  
2 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures



of the sea. There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,  
of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal



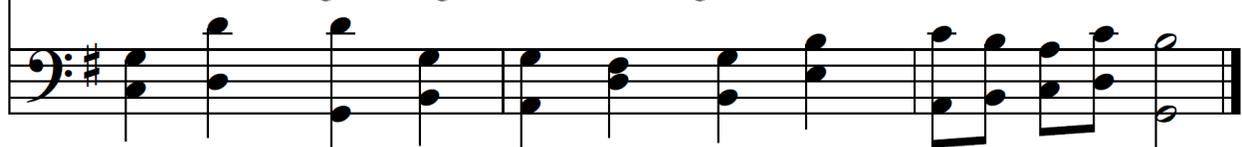
which is more than lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's  
is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more



sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place  
faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -



where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.  
flect thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of our Lord.



CALL TO CONFESSION (from Romans 8:38-39)

Bob Beckert

Leader: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor power, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Assured by these words of promise, let us examine our hearts and confess our sins to God.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, we are quick to criticize, quick to judge, quick to blame. We fail to offer others the same grace we receive from you. We hold ourselves up as superior and fail to address the patterns of dominance we perpetuate. Forgive us, God. Help us seek understanding and compassion. Help us accept the love you offer us and share your love with others. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Psalm 103:17)

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

**“The Gloria Patri”**

Traditional

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

**“The New Colossus”**

Lazarus

Bob Beckert

TIME FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

SONG

**“Jericho”**

Ripp, Hulse

Claire Aretsky, vocalist

Ooh, I been stacking up the years I spent trading punches with the enemy  
Ooh, built myself a double thick stone tower of lies  
Higher than the eye can see  
Trapped in my flesh and bone, crying out to You, Lord, I'm desperate  
Love, come rattle this cage and set me free  
All of my fears like Jericho walls gotta come down, come down  
All of my fears like Jericho walls gotta come down, come down, oh Lord  
My prison turns to ruin when Your love moves in  
All of my fears like Jericho walls gotta come down, come down, come down  
Ooh, truth was crashing through the pride and the blame  
Cutting straight to the heart of me  
Ooh, long before I ever called Your name  
You were fighting for my victory  
Carved in Your flesh and bone, the wounds that have said my soul's forgiven  
Oh, now I can feel the darkness trembling

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

<sup>2</sup>I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— <sup>4</sup>was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, <sup>7</sup>even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, <sup>9</sup>but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup>Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

## SERMON

**Overruled**

Pastor Ivan N. Herman

## SONG

**“Remembrance”**

Davenport & Hastings

Laura Leek and Jenny DeVries, vocalists

I take the bread of life, broken for all my sin  
Your body crucified to make me whole again  
I will recall the cup poured out in sacrifice  
To trade this sinner's end for Your new covenant  
Hallelujah! I'll live my life in remembrance  
Hallelujah! Your promise I won't forget

I'll walk salvation's road with fear and trembling  
Your way borne as my own as Christ is formed in me  
Hallelujah! I'll live my life in remembrance  
Hallelujah! Your promise I won't forget

If ever I should lose my way, if ever I deny Your grace  
Remind me of the price You paid  
Hallelujah! I'll live in remembrance

You've been so, so good to me. You've been so, so good to me,  
Oh, to think where I would be if not for You, if not for You

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

*(Place a plate with bread or crackers on a table in your home worship space. Beside it set a cup with juice, wine, water, or other common beverage in your home. With these elements we celebrate the shared presence of Christ that connects and nourishes our communion of faith.)*

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Pastor: Come to the table, all you who are waiting, from the depths of sorrow and pain or in the heights of joy. Come to the table, all you who are waiting for a July 4 gathering like it used to be, a memorial service to say good-bye, a worship service to be something different from what it is – a gathering with hugs and

handshakes, singing the hymns, and easy interaction with children. Come, all you who are waiting for a job or a day off, to make big life decisions without fears, or to meet friends for a night out as we both want and fear personal contact. Our souls wait for God, for God's grace is sufficient for us, as power is made perfect in weakness.

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Gracious God, we remember a time Jesus was at table, but life was so complex and confusing, he and his followers didn't have a chance to eat. We have been confused like that. We remember a time Jesus' family was so worried for him they wanted to take him far away from all choices and risks, to remove him both from danger and from people he loved. We have felt torn apart like that.

We remember Jesus opened up family to mean those sitting that table as well as precious ones from the past. We have learned in these days of virtual family, masked family, essential family, six-foot-away family, church family, that you are faithful to invite us into a diverse and blended family, just as Christ did at the Passover table. We are welcomed like that.

You are the host of this Table, O Christ, and you set a meal before us that feeds us hope and steadfast love. We will ever be grateful for that. Amen.

If your elements of Communion are with you, rest your hands lightly upon them. We ask God's grace on us and on all those who are in our prayers this morning and God's blessing on our elements and our hands.

God, in whose open hand we place our own, send your Spirit of life and blessing upon all of us gathered anywhere, in any way, so that this Bread may be broken and received in love and this Cup poured out to give the world hope. Risen Christ, as you have faith in us, may we have faith in you. Breathe in us, that we may breathe in you. Amen.

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*(Break the bread and dip it in the cup. If you are with others, serve one another saying, "This is the bread of heaven. This is the cup of Christ.")*

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: Spirit of Christ, you have blessed our hands and our hearts. May this simple meal give us courage to speak faith and act love in the weak places of your precious world. Renew our covenant with all life. Wrap your hopeful presence around all whose bodies, spirits and hearts need healing, and let us live with the confidence that your grace is sufficient for every day to come. Amen.

#### OFFERING

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Gracious God, because we are not strong enough to pray as we should, you provide Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit to intercede when we go astray. In this confidence, we pause as a people to lift up our prayers of thanksgiving,

intercession, lamentation and petition. We ask you to accept the prayers we make that serve your will and fulfill the vision you have for our world. God of mercy, hear our prayers.

As we give thanks for the freedoms we enjoy on this Independence Day, we pray for peoples and countries struggling under oppressive regimes, abusive systems of power and coercive means of control. We pray for our nation's leaders who seek creative ways to address complex problems. We pray for the safety and well-being of our military personnel, especially those serving in harm's way. We pray for those who are traveling this weekend, that they might be responsible and safe. We pray for those in our nation still waiting to be freed from hunger, poverty and the ravages of injustice. God of mercy, hear our prayers.

Compassionate God, as we continue to move through this pandemic, we pray for health and healing. Lift up the depressed. Befriend those who grieve. Comfort the anxious. Fill all people with your Holy Spirit that we might bear each other's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ. God of mercy, hear our prayers.

United as a family of faith and as the Body of Christ we lift these prayers up to you, God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Finally, hear us pray the prayer Christ taught us, saying,

**Unison: 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. Amen.**

## THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

The Lord whom we love, whom we worship and adore,  
We will serve throughout this coming week. He it is who binds us together,  
And He it is who sends us apart, to be God's people, be God's people. Amen.

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Liturgy by Teri McDowell Ott © *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2021

Communion liturgy adapted for our use today, and originally written by Maren Tirabassi and shared on her blog on May 28, 2021. [giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com](http://giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com)

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Audio/Video: Steve Parker and Mike Aretsky  
Contemporary Worship Leader: Jenny DeVries  
Piano: Gabe Bisho  
Guitar: Paul Zeman  
Bass: Jay Leek  
Drums: Will Condrey