

Order of service
Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 24, 2020

Hymn: We are a rainbow (Ken Kilbourne, © Eagle's Point Music, Brent Holmes)

1

There are many colours in a rainbow
All bound together as one
They are the promise of tomorrow
Our hope for all the days to come

*We are a rainbow, together we are a sign
We are a rainbow, to live for humankind
We are a rainbow, it's time for us to shine
We are a rainbow*

2

We all are children of that promise
Made for the whole world around
Wherever love brings us together
A rainbow can be found

3

So if you see the world around us
And wonder how it can be
Remember we were given us a promise
A hope for all the world to see

4

There is one who brings out all our colors
And binds us together as one
Reaching out to our sisters and our brothers
We find our place in the sun

Welcome

Song: You shall go out with joy
VU 884 Isaiah 55 (Key G)

You shall go out with joy
And be led forth with peace,
The mountains and the hills
Will break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy

And the trees of the fields
Will clap, will clap their hands.
And the trees of the fields will clap their hands,
And the trees of the fields will clap their hands,
And the trees of the fields will clap their hands,
While you go out with joy.

Call to worship: Psalm 96: 8-13

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts!
Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness
tremble before him, all the earth!
Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns!
Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."
Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
let the field exult, and everything in it!
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
before the Lord, for he comes,
for he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness,
and the peoples in his faithfulness.
Family of God, from whom does our help come?

Our help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

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While you go out with joy.

Opening prayer & Lord's Prayer song

A prayer from the Iona Community

We have heard about you, God of all power. You made the world out of kindness, creating order out of confusion; you made each one of us in your own image; your fingerprint is on every soul. So, we praise you.

We praise and worship you.

We have heard about you, Jesus Christ; the carpenter who left his tools and trade; the poor man who made others rich; the healer who let himself be wounded; the criminal on whom the soldiers spat not knowing they were fouling the face of God; the savior who died and rose again. So we praise you.

We praise and worship you.

We have heard about you, Holy Spirit, You broke the bonds of every race and nation, to let God speak in every tongue; you made the disciples drunk with grace; you converted souls and emptied pockets; you showed how love made all things new and opened the doors to change and freedom. So we praise you.

We praise and worship you. Amen

Lord's Prayer song

Our Father

Words: Jim Strathee Music: Anon; arr. by All Oppenheimer; accomp. by Jim Strathee
In *The faith we sing* (2000). A supplement to *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

Children's hymn: The farmer song

1

If I were a white Charolais, I'd thank you Lord,
for giving me hay.
And if I were a Hostein cow, I'd thank you Lord,
For showing me how.
If I were a curly haired sheep, I'd jiggle my tail
And I'd give you a bleat, but...
I just thank you God for making me "me"

Refrain

'Cause you gave me a heart and you gave me a smile
You gave me Jesus, and made me his child
And I just thank you, God, for making me "me"

2

If I were a Case-I.H., I'd thank you Lord, for giving me fuel.
If I were a green John Deere,
I'd be thankful for my power-shift gears.

And if I were an old, blue Ford, I'd finish my work
And I'd take on more, but...
I just thank you God for making me "me" R

3
If I were a flower bed, I'd thank you Lord, for my blooming stems,
And If I were a garden plot,
it's tough to be thankful for the bugs and whatnot.
And as I mow my lawn I'll say,
"It's a lot like farming in my own special way," but
I just thank you God for making me "me." R

A time for all God's children

Hymn: There shall be showers of blessing

1
There shall be showers of blessing:
This is the promise of love;
There shall be seasons refreshing,
Sent from the Savior above.

Refrain
Showers of blessing,
Showers of blessing we need:
Mercy drops 'round us are falling,
But for the showers we plead.

2
There shall be showers of blessing--
Precious reviving again;
Over the hills and the valleys,
Sound of abundance of rain. R

3
There shall be showers of blessing:
Send them upon us, O Lord;
Grant to us now a refreshing;
Come and now honor thy word. R

4
There shall be showers of blessing:
Oh, that today they might fall,
Now as to God we're confessing,

Now as on Jesus we call! R

Scripture: 1 Peter 2: 11-24

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honourable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

Submission to authority

Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honour everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the emperor.

Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

May God bless to our understanding this reading of his holy word.

Hymn: Count your blessings

1

When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

Refrain

Count your blessings, name them one by one;
Count your blessings, see what God hath done;
Count your blessings, name them one by one;

Count your many blessings, see what God hath done.

2

Are you ever burdened with a load of care?
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?
Count your many blessings, ev'ry doubt will fly,
And you will be singing as the days go by. R

3

When you look at others with their lands and gold,
Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold;
Count your many blessings, money cannot buy
Your reward in heaven, nor your home on high. R

4

So, amid the conflict, whether great or small,
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end. R

Sermon

Prayers of the people & benediction

Prayer refrain: All who are thirsty

MV 4

All who are thirsty, all who are weak,
 come to the fountain.
 Dip your heart in the stream of life.
 Let the pain and the sorrow be washed away
 in the waves of his mercy
 as deep cries out to deep. We sing

Come, Lord Jesus, come. (4X)

Holy Spirit come. (4X)