



Surely God
is my help;

the Lord

is the *one who*
sustains me.

Psalm 54:4

Welcome

"We are a Family of Faith Dedicated to the Mission of Making Disciples, Spreading the Good News and Baptizing in the Name of Jesus Christ"

Sunday September 27th, 2020
The 17th Sunday after Pentecost

All bolded text is to be spoken by all

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (responsively)

One: When we are hungry for a sustaining faith, we ask,

All: Are you among us, O God?

One: When we are thirsty for justice and peace, we ask,

All: Are you among us, O God?

One: As wandering people who long for mercy, we ask,

All: Are you among us, O God?

One: Secure in the freedom of your love, we ask,

All: Are you among us, O God?

Opening Prayer (unison)

God of desert days and wilderness nights,

We rest in the comfort of your presence

And trust in the sustaining power of your love.

Provide us with all that we need

To live abundantly and serve with abandon.

Opening Hymn #48 "God of Creation

1 God of creation, all-powerful, all-wise,

Lord of the universe rich with surprise,

Maker, Sustainer, and Ruler of all,

we are your children—you hear when we call.

2 God of the ages, through time's troubled years

you are the One in whom history coheres;

nations and empires your purpose fulfill,

moving in freedom, yet working your will.

3 God of redemption, who wrought our rebirth,

called out your Church from the ends of the earth,
still you are Savior--put darkness to flight;
overcome sin by salvation's pure light!
4 God of your people, your Word still stands fast--
do for us now as you've done in the past!
Yours is the kingdom--your triumph we claim,
challenging evil in Jesus' strong name.

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Exodus 17:1-7 (The Message)

1-2 Directed by God, the whole company of Israel moved on by stages from the Wilderness of Sin. They set camp at Rephidim. And there wasn't a drop of water for the people to drink. The people took Moses to task: "Give us water to drink." But Moses said, "Why pester me? Why are you testing God?"

3 But the people were thirsty for water there. They complained to Moses, "Why did you take us from Egypt and drag us out here with our children and animals to die of thirst?"

4 Moses cried out in prayer to God, "What can I do with these people? Any minute now they'll kill me!"

5-6 God said to Moses, "Go on out ahead of the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel. Take the staff you used to strike the Nile. And go. I'm going to be present before you there on the rock at Horeb. You are to strike the rock. Water will gush out of it and the people will drink."

6-7 Moses did what he said, with the elders of Israel right there watching. He named the place Massah (Testing-Place) and Meribah (Quarreling) because of the quarreling of the Israelites and because of their testing of God when they said, "Is God here with us, or not?"

Children's Moment- Gospel Scripture Chancel Drama: Matthew 21:23-32

Confession of our Humanness (unison)

O God, we stand at the brink of what has been and what is yet to be.

We long to receive the gift of your liberation and to taste the sweetness of your promises. But the way forward is unknown, and so we hesitate: discouraged, frightened,

insecure, complaining.

Yet we know we must move ahead on our journey.

**May we be mindful of your sustaining presence and, like a
bird in full flight,**

May this assurance soar within our faith

So we can rise above the challenges of this moment. Amen.

Words of Affirmation

Pastoral Prayer with 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.
Amen.

Responsive Hymn #84 "Children of the Heavenly Father"

Children of the heavenly Father
Safely in His bosom gather
Nestling bird or star in Heaven
Such a refuge ne'er was given

God, His own doth tend and nourish
In His holy courts they flourish
From all evil things He spares them
In His mighty arms He bears them
Neither life nor death shall ever

From the Lord, His children sever
Unto them His grace He showeth
And their sorrows all He knoweth

Though He giveth or He taketh
God His children ne'er forsaketh
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them, pure and holy

Message: "Authority Source = Surge Capacity"

Invitation for Our Offering

Offertory

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow

Praise God, all creatures here below

Praise God above, ye Heavenly Host

Creator, Christ and Spirit One

Prayer of Dedication

Closing Hymn # 347 "Tell His Praise in Song and Story"

1 Tell his praise in song and story,
bless the Lord with heart and voice;
in my God is all my glory,
come before him and rejoice.
Join to praise his name together,
he who hears his people's cry;
tell his praise, come wind or weather,
shining faces lifted high.

2 To the Lord whose love has found them
cry the poor in their distress;
swift his angels, camped around them,
prove him sure to save and bless.
God it is who hears our crying
though the spark of faith be dim;
taste and see! Beyond denying
blest are those who trust in him.

3 Taste and see! In faith draw near him,
trust the Lord with all your powers;
seek and serve him, love and fear him,
life and all its joys are ours--
true delight in holy living,
peace and plenty, length of days;
come, my children, with thanksgiving
bless the Lord in songs of praise.

4 In our need he walks beside us,
ears alert to every cry;
watchful eyes to guard and guide us,
love that whispers, "It is I."
Good shall triumph, wrong be righted,
God has pledged his promised word;
so with ransomed saints united
join to praise our living Lord!

Benediction (responsively)

One: You have watered our desert souls.

All: We cried out in our longings, and you answered.

One: You drew near to us, bringing comfort and peace.

**All: We leave now with the assurance of your presence
always with us, in and around us, the sturdy rock upon
which we stand.**

One: (Culminating words by Minister)

Closing Response Amen, Amen, Amen

Youth News:

Now that school has begun, please note the following changes:
Transportation to Congo on Wednesdays: We are encouraging
our youth group participants (all kids in grades 5-12) to walk in
groups to church after school (weather permitting) unless parents
are able to drop them off at Congo. If neither are an
option, please ride Bus 26 (bus driver Liz Bowman) to Congo.
Ending time of youth group: We will end each Wednesday
evening at 7pm.

FUEL: (Faith Used in Everyday Life) has been cancelled for the 2020-2021 school year.

Masks: We are now requiring ALL who enter the church to wear a mask. Youth events held outside do not require a mask. Masks will be provided.

Confirmation Student-Parent-Mentor meeting Today after worship service, please join Pastor Garth and Charlotte as we discuss the upcoming Confirmation year. All Congo Kids and current confirmation students entering grades 7 through 12 are invited to join us! See Charlotte if you have any questions

Wednesday September 30th - Homework & Hangout after school followed by youth group at 5pm and dinner at 5:45pm. After clean up, we will close with worship around the campfire, weather permitting. Please note: our evening will conclude at 7:00pm.

Serving Christ with you,
Charlotte Gillen
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God knows me.
God chose me.
God loves me.
God restores me.
God sustains me.
God helps me.
God rescues me.
God shields me.

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