

# VIRTUAL CHAPEL SERVICE

September 30 and October 03, 2020



“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.”

~ Exodus 20:2-3 (NRSV)



# Gathering as the Body of Christ.

**CENTERING SONG**

**“GOOD GOOD FATHER”**

**ANTHONY BROWN, PAT BARRETT**

I've heard a thousand stories of what they think you're like  
But I've heard the tender whispers of love in the dead of night  
And you tell me that you're pleased  
And that I'm never alone

You're a good good father  
It's who you are, it's who you are, it's who you are  
And I'm loved by you  
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am  
(2x)

Because you are perfect in all of your ways  
You are perfect in all of your ways  
You are perfect in all of your ways to us  
You are perfect in all of your ways  
You are perfect in all of your ways  
You are perfect in all of your ways to us

You're a good good father  
It's who you are, it's who you are, it's who you are  
And I'm loved by you  
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

**GREETING**

**PRESIDER**

In the name of Jesus Christ,  
who calls us to seek justice and resist evil,  
to love and serve others,  
let us worship.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Presider O Lord, you are God. There is no other God but you.

**Many We renounce all that we have allowed to come between us.**

O Lord, we worship you. We praise and honor your name.

**We worship you on this, your holy day.**

For your love, for your word, for all that you have given:

**O Lord, we thank you and praise you.**

**We love you.**

**Amen.**

## OPENING HYMN

### “LEAD ME, GUIDE ME”

**AAHH #474**

#### REFRAIN:

Lead, me, guide me, along the way,  
For if you lead me, I cannot stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

I am weak and I need thy strength and pow’r  
To help me over my weakest hour.  
Help me through the darkness thy face to see.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

#### REFRAIN

Help me tread in the paths of righteousness.  
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.  
I am putting all my trust in thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

#### REFRAIN

I am lost if you take your hand from me.  
I am blind without thy light to see.  
Lord, just always let me thy servant be.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

## **REFRAIN**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Now let us come before God with words of confession:

**Holy God, Creator of all that is, Donor of Grace, and Giver of Life, Mother to us all:  
Hear our prayer.**

**There are chasms in our lives, deep valleys that separate us  
From one another and from You.**

**We confess that we have allowed those rifts to grow,  
For fear of admitting our part in the separation,  
For fear of being rejected when we reach out.**

**You call us to a reconciled life, to healed relationships,  
To a wholeness with each other and with You.**

**Mend us, we pray, and make us new creations  
Through the power and love of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve.

Alleluia! Amen.

**Many  
All**

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God**

### **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

You are invited to pass the peace to each other by waving or by typing in the chat function in Zoom.

Peace be with you! **And also with you!**  
Let us share this peace with one another.

# Service of the Word

## POEM

## “SOLVE FOR X”

OLIVER DE LA PAZ

And in the outer world, the first, something smooth and wet. An  
X  
skims across the tops of the crests in a succession of skips. The  
longest  
holds its space in the air, pauses, then descends into what is a cool  
sleep.

X and all the faces of backlit animals gaze downward at you. Their  
curious engulfed  
silhouettes. A spasm of radio and the accident of understanding  
what it means to be X. What it means to be held and kissed and  
gibbered to  
as though you were something cast away and suddenly,  
miraculously, returned.

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE READING

EXODUS 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

NRSV

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before[a] me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.

[Pause for 1 deep breath.]

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON

**DEACONESS MYKA KENNEDY STEPHENS**

## PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

One            From north to south,  
Many        **We come as one people to worship.**  
                From east to west,  
                **We come as one people to worship.**  
                From every corner of the globe,  
                **We come as one people to worship.**  
                You called us to witness your love in this place,  
                **We come as one people to worship.**  
                You called us to build a new nation,  
                **We come as one people to worship.**  
                You called us to reconciliation,  
                **We come as one people to worship.**  
                You called us to create a new generation,  
                **We come as one people to worship.**  
                God Creator offers life abundant to God's own people!  
                **Alleluia!**  
                God Redeemer walks by our side!  
                **Alleluia!**  
                God Sustainer labors with us!  
                **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## The Service of the Table

One            The Lord be with you.

**Many            And also with you. / Y también contigo.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord. / Los elevamos al Señor.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise. / Es digno y justo darle gracias y alabarle.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Father Almighty (almighty God), creator of heaven and earth.  
You have made from one every nation and people  
to live on all the face of the earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Santo eres tú y bendito es tu Hijo Jesucristo.  
Mediante el bautismo de su sufrimiento, muerte y resurrección,  
diste nacimiento a tu Iglesia,  
nos liberaste de la esclavitud del pecado y de la muerte,  
e hiciste con nosotros un nuevo pacto  
mediante el agua y el Espíritu.  
Nos comisionó ser sus testigos hasta el último rincón del mundo  
y hacer discípulos de todas las naciones,  
y hoy su familia en todo el mundo se junta alrededor de su santa mesa.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,

gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

Renueva nuestra comunión con tu Iglesia por todo el mundo,  
y fortalécela en cada nación y en medio de cada pueblo  
para dar testimonio fielmente en tu nombre.  
Mediante el poder de tu Espíritu, haznos uno con Cristo,  
uno con los demás, y uno en la obra del ministerio a todo el mundo,  
hasta que Cristo venga en la victoria final y podamos todos participar en el  
banquete celestial.

**Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all  
honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.**



# Going Forth as the Body of Christ

**CLOSING SONG**

**“BE THOU MY VISION”**

**NCH #451**

Be Thou my vision  
O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me  
Save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought  
By day or by night  
Waking or sleeping  
Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom  
Be Thou my true Word  
I ever with Thee  
And Thou with me Lord  
Thou my great Father  
I Thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling  
And I with Thee one

Be Thou my shield  
And my sword for the fight  
Be Thou my dignity  
Be Thou my might  
Thou my soul's shelter  
And Thou my high tow'r  
Raise Thou me heav'nward  
O pow'r of my pow'r

Riches I heed not  
Nor man's empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance

Now and always  
Thou and Thou only  
Be first in my heart  
High King of heaven  
My treasure Thou art

High King of heaven  
When vict'ry is won  
May I reach heaven's joys  
O bright heaven's Sun  
Heart of my own heart  
Whatever befall  
Still be my vision  
O Ruler of all

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

## **"BE THOU MY VISION"**

## **INSTRUMENTAL REPRISE**

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**Cover Art:** Table View Methodist Church in Cape Town, South Africa, celebrates a theological and symbolic journey through the Bible through simple, yet meaningful stained glass. They were designed by Rev. Angus Kelly in 2018 and installed by Anika Van de Merwe of Silverstain Stained Glass Studios in Advent 2019.

Ten Commandments, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.  
<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57292> [retrieved June 18, 2020]. Original source:  
<https://tableviewmethodist.blogspot.com/p/bible-story-windows.html>.

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**Greeting:** United Church of Canada, *Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services* (Etobicoke, Ontario: United Church Publishing House, 2000), 19.

**Call to Worship:** <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/5417/worship-elements-october-8-2017>, Accessed June 9, 2020, From The Abingdon Worship Annual, edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu, Copyright © Abingdon Press. , By Bill Hoppe on Sept 1, 2017

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**Confession and Assurance:** <https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession/>, accessed June 9, 2020.

**Poem:** de la Paz, Oliver. "Solve for X by Oliver De La Paz - Poems | Academy of American Poets." Poets.org. Academy of American Poets, 2017. <https://poets.org/poem/solve-x>.

**Prayer of Illumination:** <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/prayers.php?id=162>

**Offertory Song:** "Awesome God" by Rich Mullins, Copyright 1988 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing. Used under permission of CCLI.

**Prayer of the People:** <http://rev-o-lution.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Letania-para-mes-de-la-hispanidad.pdf>, accessed June 9, 2020, <http://rev-o-lution.org/resources/hispanic-heritage-month/>, shortened version of the original

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### THE WORSHIP TEAM SEEKS:

To serve the universal church of our Creator.

To minister to the unique and diverse needs of the seminary community.

To foster an expansive culture of worship that values difference and challenges the normative.