

Sunday Morning Worship
Emmanuel Presbyterian Church
October 10, 2021

Gathering Music “Menuet” from “The Tomb of Couperin,” by Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

The pieces in this cycle are music of mourning for French soldiers who died fighting in World War One. A Menuet, was a courtly dance from an earlier time, and this one is dedicated to the memory of the soldier Jean Dreyfus.

Welcome and Announcements

Remembering Our Baptism

In baptism God claims us,

And seals us to show that we belong to God.

Prelude “Variation on “Wondrous Love” by Samuel Barber (1910-1981)

I will play only one of Barber’s variations on this traditional American tune, a hymn which you probably know well. You may or may not be familiar with the boisterous, spontaneous, almost rowdy singing style in which it may be sung at Appalachian style shape-note singing gatherings or religious services, but you do know the tune.

Call to Worship

Liturgist: Tom Moxness

Let us worship the One who calls us.

Our God is strong, like a rock.

We come to worship the God of justice and joy.

Our God cares for the ones the world forgets.

We come to worship the God of justice and joy.

Our God gives life, and guards our future.

Come, let us worship God.

We worship God with thankful hearts.

*Hymn # 366

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we confess our desperate need to trust you in our lives.

For things that are out of our control;

Our health is an annoyance or a source of grief;

Our finances are precarious;

Our futures are unclear;

We don't know what's coming next.

And we find ourselves wondering if you have abandoned us.

Hear our cries for help.

That we might stand on the higher ground of your presence.

We wish to trust you.

Assurance of Pardon

It is never too late to follow the Lord.

Each life-season requires a new response.

God hurdles every obstacle in our lives.

We are forgiven, we are loved.

Now serve God with your whole heart.

Sharing the Peace* "The peace of Christ be with you," **"And also with you."

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds

by the power of your Holy Spirit,

that we may hear your Word with joy. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: 1 Samuel 2:10

Hannah prayed and said, 'My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is exalted in my God. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory. 'There is no Holy One like the Lord, no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God. Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength. Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts. He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the

needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honour. For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and on them he has set the world. 'He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness; for not by might does one prevail. The Lord! His adversaries shall be shattered; the Most High will thunder in heaven. The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king, and exalt the power of his anointed.'

Sermon

"Help! Thanks! Wow!"

**Hymn # 836*

"Abide with Me"

Prayers of Thanksgiving + Concern shared by the congregation.

The 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.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

Offertory

"Praise to the Lord the Almighty" arr. Kevin McChesney,
used with permission.

Offering Prayer

**With thankfulness we give in gratitude and joy.
With prayerfulness we give in sacrifice and love.
With hopefulness we give in commitment to God.**

**Sung Doxology*

**Praise God whose love has made us one,
Praise Christ for new life now begun,
Praise Spirit who renews, uplifts,
Praise now the offering of these gifts.**

Charge and Benediction

Postlude “Grand dialogue” by Jacques Boyvin (1649-1706)

This is the closing movement of the sixth suite for organ by Boyvin, out of eight suites in all. You will hear how the emphasis alternates between stronger and subtler sounds, between the upper and lower keyboards of the organ: the “dialogue” of the title.

*Please stand if it is comfortable for you to do so.

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366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee; changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.

CHRIST'S RETURN AND JUDGMENT

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

836

Abide with Me

1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide!
 earth's joys grow dim; its glo - ries pass a - way;
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see.
 Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 Heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

By blending end of day and end of life, the imagery of this well-known Victorian hymn has made it valuable for both evening services and funerals. Although the author wrote his own music for it, the present tune has been firmly associated with this text for over 150 years.