

First Presbyterian Church, New Haven, CT

Worship Bulletin

Summer 6

August 2, 2020

Preacher: Emily Theus

Song: *On the Floor* by Brandon Flowers

Video: <https://youtu.be/pXhpM-sqF4>

Call To Worship

from Ecc 1: 3-5, 7, Psalm 65: 5

One: What do people gain from all the toil
at which they toil under the sun?

All: **A generation goes, and a generation comes,
but the earth remains forever.**

One: The sun rises and the sun goes down,
and hurries to the place where it rises.

All: **All streams run to the sea,
but the sea is not full;
to the place where the streams flow,
there they continue to flow.**

One: By awesome deeds our God answers us with deliverance and salvation;

All: **Our God is the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas. Come, let us worship God!**

Hymn

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Latham Family Singers

Open now thy gates of beauty,
Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty
waits for God who answers prayer;
O how blessed is this place,
filled with solace, light, and grace.

Gracious God, I come before thee;
come thou also unto me;
where we find thee and adore thee,
there a heaven on earth must be;
to my heart O enter thou;
let it be thy temple now.

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Confession

(Hold silence)

Holy God, too many of our neighbors are touched by violence. Too many voices are crying out for justice. Too many of your children seem to go by unnoticed and therefore go hungry and thirst for compassion. Forgive us. Forgive us for our complicity in unjust systems and our contributions to the brokenness of the world. Fill us with your mercy so that we, in turn, may be merciful to others. Strip away pride, suspicion, and racism so that we may seek peace and justice in our homes and in our communities. Strengthen our hearts so that they beat only to the rhythm of your holy will. Be with us, O Lord, in our efforts, for only by the prompting of your grace can we progress toward virtue. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

One: In just a little while, the psalmist will remind us of something so important, it's worth repeating here and now so we don't miss it. The Psalmist reminds us that though we are overwhelmed by our sins, when we bring them to God, God forgives us! God visits the earth and waters it, greatly enriches it and all that is in it; the river of God is full of water; and God provides the people with grain, for so God has prepared it. Our God is a God of abundant love, abundant grace, desiring for us to live in peace, to live as forgiven people. Therefore, friends, believe the Good News:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Response: *Come and Fill Our Hearts With Your Peace*

Taizé

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

Prayer of Illumination

Psalter Reading Psalm 65

New Testament Reading Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

Sermon

Moment of Silence

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing

Beth Aura and Bruce Peabody

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us,
traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound;
may the fruits of your salvation
in our hearts and lives abound.

Ever faithful, ever faithful
to your truth may we be found.

Savior, when your love shall call us,
from our struggling pilgrim way,
let no fear of death appall us,
glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
reign with you in endless day.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Benevolent God, you see those who are hungry, poor and marginalized, who too often we overlook. You recognize their humanity, their suffering, and promise to overthrow the rejection they encounter in our world. Help us be a part, help us to be a part of that transformation. Take our gifts and feed the hungry and sustain the poor. Multiply our gifts to erase the margins of our society, embracing us all into your inclusive love. With all of our differences, with all of our creation of you within us. Amen.

Charge/Benediction