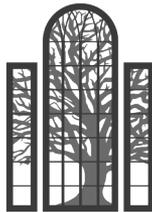




10th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
August 1, 2021



University Presbyterian Church

3240 Dalrymple Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802
(225)383-0345 • www.upcbr.org

Co-Pastors: Mamie Broadhurst and Patti Snyder

Choir Director: David Walters

Organist: Anne Maverick

Ministers: The people of this church

10th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 1, 2021

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

We worship today gathered in Spirit and for some in body, realizing perhaps more than ever the nature of the body of Christ. We gather as a resurrection people even in our time of loss and uncertainty. As we gather may we be strengthened by the Spirit who knows no boundaries.

As you prepare for worship together you may wish to light a candle representing the presence of God with you and concerns, laments, desires for healing, confessions or prayers of thanksgiving that you are particularly holding in the light of Christ today.

PRELUDE

Camilla Pugh, organist

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS

Linda Walker

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Patti Snyder

As we begin our worship today we start with a meditative call to worship which invites us to bring our whole selves to worship, and open to curiosity, wonder, and awe.

HYMN No. 300 vs. 1

We Are One in the Spirit

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

In life we like to know what to expect and yet you are a God of surprises. In our worship we expect to know what will happen and yet your Spirit stirs us in new ways. Forgive the ways we stifle curiosity, hold back, close off. Help us to join you in creating safe space for genuine relationship and loving companionship.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

*Everyone is invited to join in speaking aloud the **bold** portions of the liturgy in the bulletin. *The asterisk indicates parts of the worship when members of the congregation are invited to rise in body or spirit as able.*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Daniel Burch

The congregation is invited to follow the worship leaders in using American Sign Language to join in sharing the peace of Christ.

**The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.**

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

Jesus, you asked questions as much as you answered them. You never shied away from conversation. You were always sparking curiosity, opening people's minds, and engaging in the art of connection with everyone around you. As we come to your Word and as we approach one another today, give us the same curiosity, openness, and connection. You are here. We are here. We are listening. Amen

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 15:9-17

Shared lexio divina style. Read through 3 times with prompts for your reflection. Text is printed on the back of your bulletin.

A CONVERSATIONAL SERMON

The Congregation

In four rounds, pairs will be invited to use any or all of the indicated questions for each round.

WE RESPOND WITH DEDICATION

OFFERING OF GIFTS

During this time you are encouraged to consider your response to the work of Christ in the world today, making a commitment of time, talents, and resources. Please remember your family, neighbors, the wider community, and the church in your offering. Although many things are shifting, please continue to honor previous commitments to the best of your ability.

If you choose to contribute to the work of Christ through UPC at this time, on line giving is available via the GIVE tab on our website (www.upcbr.org) or by texting “upcbr (space) and then the number of dollars” to 73256.

INVITATION

ANTHEM

All Belong Here

*Words by Lenora Rand, Music by Hannah Rand
Plural Guild Music 2017
David Walters, soloist*

*When you're not sure who you really are
When all you feel is the shape of your scars
And you have more wounds than you can count
Open your eyes, look all around
You aren't alone, this is your home*

[Chorus]

*Come and remember who you are here
Do this to remember who I am
Come and remember you belong here
All belong here*

*When you don't know how to forgive
When locked doors seem like the only way to live
And you've got more questions than you can count
Open your eyes, look all around
You aren't alone, this is your home*

*At this table come as you are
Broken and bleeding's ok
At this table eat and be filled
Come and drink in this grace*

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Following the Words of Institution please exit out of one of the courtyard doors or from the back of the sanctuary, taking an individual communion cup as you leave the sanctuary. You are invited to then gather in the courtyard and as prompted join in song, share bread and cup together, and conclude our worship service there.

*HYMN No. 300 vs. 2-4

We are One in the Spirit

*SHARING THE ELEMENTS

*COMMUNION PRAYER (*unison*)

Holy and astounding God, we have tried something new, and you have met us here in conversation, in Word, in the stirrings of our hearts, in prayer, and at the table. We are grateful for the gift of bread, of cup, of community, and of worship that remind us again and again of your presence with, in, and among us. We dedicate ourselves to the possibilities you are opening up through the giving of ourselves. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Go with God.

Alleluia and Amen.

John 15:9-17 (Common English Bible edition)

“As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father’s commandments and remain in the Father’s love. I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete. This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you. No one has a greater love than to give up one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I don’t call you servants any longer, because servants don’t know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because everything I heard from my Father I have made known to you. You didn’t choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you could go and produce fruit and so that your fruit could last. As a result, whatever you ask the Father in my name, will be given you. I give you these commandments so that you can love each other.”