



16th Sunday after Pentecost
 September 17, 2023



University Presbyterian Church

3240 Dalrymple Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802
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Choir Director: Ross Cawthon Co-Pastor: Mamie Broadhurst
 Organist: Anne Maverick Ministers: The people of this church

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GATHERING TOGETHER

As we prepare for worship together, in person or virtually, 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.

*Everyone is invited to join in speaking or singing 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.*

PRELUDE

*Voluntary in D
William Croft
Public Domain*

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mamie Broadhurst

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pre-K - 5th Graders

Lighting the Candle

Words for Worship: Heaven and Earth

*HYMN No. 411

God is Here Today
(Sung through two times)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Edward Peterson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**God of heaven and earth,
of all that is old and all that is new,
Who are we to get in your way?
We put people into neat, little boxes,
but you rip them open, so folks can dance in your joy.
We imprison others with our unmet expectations,
and you set them free with a Word.
We build walls around those we don't know,
and you tear them down, so they can run wild in the kingdom.
Forgive us and show us how to follow your example.**

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

**Who are we to get in your way, God,
especially in the way of your forgiveness offered to all!
Give us your vision that sees everyone as you see us.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*responsive*)

We know who God is by the love shown to us in Christ Jesus.

**We will show others who we are - and Whose we are -
by the love poured out by our lives.**

We are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Hymn 447

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 148

Revelation 21:1-5

SERMON

Alison Infante Zamora

WE RESPOND WITH DEDICATION

*HYMN No. 374

O Holy City, Seen of John

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Mother and Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

OFFERING of GIFTS

Reflect on your response to the work of Christ in the world today, and consider making a commitment of time, talents, and resources. If you choose to contribute to the work of Christ through UPC at this time, on line giving is available. See the announcements for more information.

INVITATION

CUBA TRIP COMMISSIONING

We recognize you as representatives of our church and thank God for your dedication and your gift of service. We send you forth with our prayers and our support, and, with you, renew our commitment to God and service in the name of Jesus Christ. We pray God's blessings for you and for the people in Cuba you will come to know.

ANTHEM

Creating God, Your Fingers Trace
Walter Pelz

*Creating God, your fingers trace
the bold designs of farthest space;
let sun and moon and stars and light
and what lies hidden praise your might.*

*Sustaining God, your hands uphold
earth's mysteries known or yet untold;
let water's fragile blend with air,
enabling life, proclaim your care.*

*Redeeming God, your arms embrace
all now despised for creed or race;
let peace, descending like a dove,
make known on earth your healing love.*

*Indwelling God, your gospel claims
one family with a billion names;
let every life be touched by grace
until we praise you face to face.*

*Text © 1979 The Hymn Society of America
Music © 1985 The Hymn Society of America*

***DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Old Hundredth

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God of earth and heaven, old and new,
We offer these gifts of time, talent and treasure
in hopes that mourning and crying might be no more.
May we be part of all you make new.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

***HYMN No. 747**

***The Lord Now Sends Us Forth
Enviado soy de Dios***

(Sung through twice. Once in English and then in Spanish.)

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

Dios está...
Por todas partes.

POSTLUDE

Diapason Movement
John Keeble
Public Domain



**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE.
ASK THE USHER IF YOU NEED A COPY.**

Worship services at University Presbyterian Church are filmed. While most of the footage will feature worship leaders, video of the congregation may also appear. If you have concerns, please speak with one of the ushers who can direct you to locations where being recorded is less likely.

CHURCH NURSERY

The church nursery is open during the worship service
for infants and children through kindergarten.

The Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon were adapted from ones written by Thom Shuman <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/> | Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license no. A-705298 unless otherwise noted. All rights reserved.