



3rd Sunday after Pentecost
June 9, 2024



University Presbyterian Church

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Pastor: Mamie Broadhurst
Choir Director: Ross Cawthon Acompanist: Christopher Cunningham Ministers: The people of this church

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GATHERING TOGETHER

Whether you are worshiping in the sanctuary or online, at any time in the course of the service, you are invited to light a candle signifying a concern, a desire for healing, a confession, or a prayer of thanksgiving that, though private, you would like to remember in the midst of our worship.

*Please speak aloud the **bold** portions of the liturgy in the bulletin.
The asterisk * is an invitation for worshipers to rise in body or spirit as able.*

PRELUDE

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Words and Music by Doris Akers

Arr. Mark Hayes

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WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mamie Broadhurst

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Today we focus on Scripture's insistent teaching to love one another.

Paul wrote to the Ephesians,

"Be completely humble and gentle;

be patient, bearing with one another in love."

The epistle writer John insisted,

"There is no fear in love.

But perfect love drives out fear."

Above all," Peter told his readers,

"Love each other deeply,

because love covers over a multitude of sins."

*HYMN No. 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

CALL TO CONFESSION

Lois Kuyper-Rushing

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Almighty and gracious God, we confess that we have failed to open our hearts to the power of your Spirit. We practice empty rituals when you call us into loving relationships. We affirm old beliefs that sometimes hurt rather than heal, separate rather than unite. Where you ask us to give a cup of cold water in your name, we make a show of goodness and delegate acts of mercy to others. Remake us, O God, into faithful followers, hopeful disciples, and loving witnesses of your way...

A TIME OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

Guide us, O Lord, back into your way, your truth, and your life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*responsive*)

God promises mercy to us,

and guides us once again to paths of righteousness.

It is an awesome thing to stand in the presence of God,
to call God's holy name.

As the heavens are above the earth,

God's ways are above our ways.

But we come with confidence,

because in Christ we are God's forgiven people.

Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

a new verse to the tune of Hymn #434

Your mercy will endure;

God's grace, it knows no end.

Forgiven and loved, a new day dawns,

free to begin again.

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

Son of God, you spoke words to Jerusalem's leaders that were hard to hear. Give us ears to receive your word of life. Strengthen our resolve that we may follow you faithfully. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON
1 Corinthians 13

SERMON

Randy Nichols

WE RESPOND WITH DEDICATION

*HYMN No. 693

Though I May Speak

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

ANTHEM

How Can I Keep From Singing
Robert Lowry

*My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation.
I hear the sweet though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear its music ringing.
It sounds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing?*

*What tho' my joys and comfort die? The Lord my Saviour liveth.
What tho' the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that refuge clinging;
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?*

*I lift my eyes, the cloud grows thin; I see the blue above it.
And day by day this pathway smooths, since first I learned to love it.
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing.
All things are mine since I am his.
How can I keep from singing?*

***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 *(responsive)*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift your hearts to the Lord.

We offer God our thanks and praise.

We come into your presence with thanks, Creator God, for all that fills our lives with joy: the love of family and friends, the comfort of our homes, the challenge of work, and the delight of leisure. Teach us to live in the world with faith, to walk with hope, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

***HYMN No. 623**

I've Got Peace Like a River

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

CHARGE and BENEDICTION

Go with God.

Alleluia! And Amen!

POSTLUDE

*To God be the Glory
Music by William Doane
Arr. Cindy Berry
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Thank you to Randy Nichols who is our guest preacher today. Randy became a part of UPC in 1983 when a he became campus minister at the Methodist and Presbyterian Student Center – “The Uniting Campus Ministry” or “TUCM.” He is married to Meredith Veldman, a current UPC Elder and LSU Professor (History). He is now retired from his last position as Executive Director of “Capital Area Alliance for the Homeless” which is also supported by UPC.



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ASK THE USHER IF YOU NEED A COPY.**

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