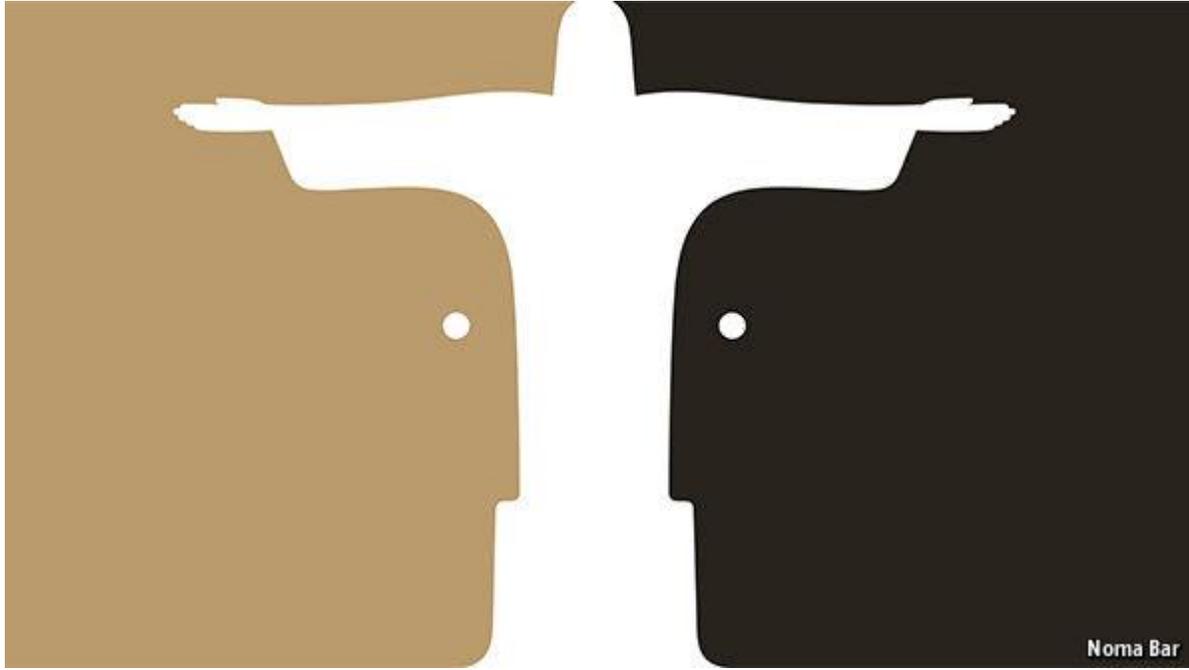


Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 21, 2020



Common Worship shared by:

Christ Church, United Church of Christ Ft. Thomas, KY
First Presbyterian Church Ft. Thomas, KY
St. John United Church of Christ Bellevue, KY
St. John's United Church of Christ Newport, KY

Today's Worship Leaders:

Rev. Amy Snow, Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian Church
Rev. Dr. Edward Goode, Christ Church
Rev. D. Houston Hall, St. John's Church Newport
Rev. Keith M. Haithcock, St. John Church Bellevue
Pam Rieke, First Presbyterian Church
Michael Sullivan, St. John's Church Newport
Jim Barton, First Presbyterian Church
Dave Zeng, First Presbyterian Church
Cathy Newman, First Presbyterian Church
Springfield Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet

Order of Service

Prelude “Concerto in D BWV 972 - Movement 1” by Vivaldi/Bach
Springfield Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet arr. John Mindeman

Welcome Pam Rieke

Call to Worship Rev. D. Houston Hall

To fulfill the ancient promise of salvation, O God,
you made a covenant with our ancestors
and pledged them descendants more numerous than the stars.
Grant that all people, of every race and nation, may share in the blessings
of your covenant.
For you are a gracious and merciful God and we worship you.

Opening Prayer Rev. D. Houston Hall

Through dreams and visions, O God,
you broaden the horizon and hope of your people,
that they may discover the meaning of your covenant,
even in the midst of trial and exile.
Broaden the horizons of our hearts and minds that all people we meet
And all of your children we greet may be embraced as our brothers and
sisters,
A precious gift from your benevolent bounty.
May we respond faithfully to your call to love
Our neighbors as ourselves. Amen

Hymn **“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”** arr. Dave Zeng
Jim Barton - Keyboard, Cathy Newman, Dave Zeng

Call to Confession

Rev. Keith M. Haithcock

There is no one who is blameless in the sight of the Lord. All have sinned and have fallen short of the Glory of God. But ours is a God who is merciful and just, caring and compassionate. When we confess our sins, God hears, God cares, and God forgives.

Let us confess our sins to God:

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Edward Goode

Holy one we confess that our hearts are too small. We have not stretched them to be able to love those who are different than ourselves. We tolerate difference and then congratulate ourselves on a job well done; yet you have commanded us to LOVE. We have fallen woefully short.

Love takes intention, and time and nurture, the willingness to listen and learn. These are gifts we have not given to our neighbors who look different than we do. We have not gone the extra mile as you have commanded us to do. Look in our hearts and help us to expand them that we may have more room to love and so become more like your Son, our Savior, Jesus. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Rev. D. Houston Hall

Our God is a God of Love and reconciliation. Even now the Holy Spirit is at work in us to heal the world. Let that Spirit be at work in you for healing and reconciliation.

Response

“Immortal Invisible”

arr. Randall Hartsell

Jim Barton - Keyboard

Scripture

Genesis 21:8-21

Rev. Keith M. Haithcock

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, “Cast out this slave woman with her

son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.” The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, “Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, “Do not let me look on the death of the child.” And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, “What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.” Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Matthew 10:24-39

Rev. D. Houston Hall

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will

fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Time with the Children

Pam Rieke

Sermon

Rev. Amy Snow

Prayers of the People & Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Edward Goode

Hymn

“To Abraham and Sarah”

text: Judith Fetter

Llanfyllin, Thornbury
and Nyland

1. To Abraham and Sarah
the call of God was clear:
'Go forth and I will show you
a country rich and fair.
You need not fear the journey
for I have pledged my word:
that you shall be my people
and I will be your God.'

**2. From Abraham and Sarah
arose a pilgrim race,
dependent for their journey
on God's abundant grace.
and in their heart was written
by God this saving word:
that you shall be my people
and I will be your God.'**

**3. We of this generation
on whom God's hand is laid,
can journey to the future
secure and un afraid!
rejoicing in God's goodness
and trusting in this word:
that you shall be my people
and I will be your God.'**

Benediction

Rev. Amy Snow

Postlude

"Praise to the Lord the Almighty"
Michael Sullivan, organ

arr. Diane Bish

Thank you to our administrative support:
Sherri Spaulding, Christ Church Ft. Thomas
Erin Horton, First Presbyterian Church Ft. Thomas
Linda Schuster, St. John Church Bellevue
Kelli Taylor, St. John's Newport

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