



DOWNTOWN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*“High summer
holds the earth. . .”*



- James Agee, from “Permit Me Voyage.”

Celebration of Worship
Sunday, July 12, 2020
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Words of Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Pat Youngdahl

Chime

Introit

Lead Me, Guide Me

Doris Akers
Arr. Richard Smallwood

**"Lead me, guide me, along the way.
For if you lead me, I will not stray.
Oh, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Jesus, lead me."**

Call to Worship *Isaiah 55:10-12

One: The prophet Isaiah heard God say, "As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth.

Many: letting it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

One: So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth: it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

Many: For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

1. O God of earth and space,
Of sea and fire and air,
Your providence surrounds us here and everywhere.
In fruit and grain and tree,
In shelter from the cold,
In cooling breezes flowing wells, now as of old

2. Where faithfulness is shown,
Where love and truth abound,
Where beauty graces human life, there You are found.
Inspirer of all thought!
Creative force of art!
The melody on every tongue, In every heart!

3. Wherever freedom reigns,
Where sin is overthrown,
Where justice fused with mercy rules, there You are known.
Give us the courage clear
To make the earth a home
For all to live in harmony in Christ's shalom.

*Centering Prayer (unison)

Amazing God, every day you bring us over from fear to hope, from complacency to caring, from giving up on the world to taking part in the creative ferment that your prophets call justice and peace. Thank you for our common humanity. We all thirst for water. We all hunger for bread. We all need kindness and freedom. Let our days be shaped by the courage we meet in Jesus, who dared to say yes to your love. Amen.

First Reading

Psalm 126

Music for Reflection

Summertime
George and Ira Gershwin
Jessica Ann Best, mezzo-soprano

Second Reading

Matthew 13:1-9

Meditation

Rev. Youngdahl

Music for Reflection

Sure On This Shining Night

Samuel Barber

*"Sure on this shining night of star-made shadows round,
Kindness must watch for me this side the ground.
The late year lies down the north.
All is healed, all is health.
High summer holds the earth.
Hearts all whole.
Sure on this shining night I weep for wonder
wand'ring far alone
of shadows on the stars."*

Text: James Agee

Prayers of Healing and Transformation

Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit come! Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Spirit, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Benediction

Response

When God Restored Our Common Life
(See next page for words and music)

When God Restored Our Common Life

G C G C C/E F C C/E C/E F Em/G G

1. When God re - stored our com - mon life, our hope, our lib - er -
 2. We went forth weep - ing, sow - ing seeds in hard, un - yield - ing
 3. Great lib - er - at - ing God, we pray for all who are op -

F/A C Am Em/G C2 C C/E F2 F G Am

ty, at first it seemed a pass - ing dream, a
 soil; with laugh - ing hearts we car - ry home the
 pressed. May those who long for what is right with

G7/B C Em/G G C G C/E C F C/E

wak - ing fan - ta - sy. A shock of joy swept
 fruit of all our toil. We praise the One who
 jus - tice now be blest. We pray for those who

Dm7 Dm7/F G C Am Am2/C F Dm Am Fmaj7 F6 F

o - ver us, for we had wept so long; the
 gave the growth, with voic - es full and strong. The
 mourn this day, and all who suf - fer wrong; may

Em G C Am Dm Am Em7/G C/E Em7/G G7 C

seeds we wa - tered once with tears sprang up in - to a song.
 seeds we wa - tered once with tears sprang up in - to a song.
 seeds they wa - ter now with tears spring up in - to a song.

Congregation: Unison

WORDS: Ruth Duck (Ps. 126)

MUSIC: USA folk melody, Walker's *Southern Harmony*; harm. by Erik Routley

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That All May Freely Serve

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