August 29, 2021
14th Sunday after Pentecost

Our Mission:
To embody God’s love for all by living an active faith in service to others.

We Gather to Affirm God’s Presence in Our Lives

May the God we sing to, pray to, and speak to throughout the day bless you and keep you safe.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O God, open our eyes
Unison: To behold your presence
Leader: O God, open our ears
Unison: To hear your voice
Leader: O God, open our hearts
Unison: To receive your love
Leader: O God, open our lips
Unison: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as
ourselves. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and follow in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen

SILENCE (be as specific as you wish)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE
Leader: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Unison: Through Jesus Christ we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

HYMN Awake, Awake to Love and Work NCH 89

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE READING
Mark 12: 28-33
28 One of the legal experts heard their dispute and saw how well Jesus answered them. He came over and asked him, “Which commandment is the most important of all?”
29 Jesus replied, “The most important one is Israel, listen! Our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your mind, and with all your strength."[a] 31 The second is this, You will love your neighbor as yourself.[b] No other commandment is greater than these.”
32 The legal expert said to him, “Well said, Teacher. You have truthfully said that God is one and there is no other besides him. 33 And to love God with all of the heart, a full understanding, and all of one’s strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself is much more important than all kinds of entirely burned offerings and sacrifices.”

PRAYER

SILENT PRAYER
THE LORD'S PRAYER
Unison: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name! Thy kingdom 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 kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

HYMN Renew Your Church verses 1,2,4 NCH 311

SERMON Trying to sync them all up

HYMN Let There Be Light, O God of Hosts verses 1-3 NCH 589

BENEDICTION

PRAYER (in unison)
O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths on which we have not walked, through troubles we do not yet know. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your Spirit is leading us and your love supporting us. Amen.

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

[Call to Worship adapted from David Adam]

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Let There be Light, O God of Hosts, William M. Vories, 1980; alt., © 1995 The New Century Hymnal, All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License # 737648-A. All rights reserved.
Awake, Awake to Love and Work

Geoffrey A. Studdert-Kennedy, 1921; alt.

1. Awake, awake to love and work! The lark is in the sky;
2. Come, let your voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of praise;
3. To give and give, and give again, as God's own grace is free;

the fields are wet with diamond dew; The world's awake to cry
See how the giant sun soars up, God's gift for all your days!
To spend yourself nor count the cost; To serve most gloriously

their praises to the Fount of Life; Christ Jesus passes by.
So let the love of Jesus come and set your soul a-blaze,
the God who gave all worlds that are, and all that are to be.
1 Renew your church, its ministries restore:
    both to serve
2 Teach us your word, reveal its truth divine;
    on our path
3 Teach us to pray, for you are ever near;
    your still voice
4 Teach us to love, with strength of heart and mind,
    each and all—

and adore. Make us again as salt throughout the land,
let it shine. Tell of your works, your mighty acts of grace;
let us hear. Our souls are restless till they rest in you;
human-kind! Break down old walls of prejudice and hate;

and as light from a stand, 'Mid somber shadows
from each page show your face. As you have sent your
this is life, full and true. Before your presence
leave us not to our fate. As you have loved and

of the night, where greed and hatred spread their blight,
Christ to save, in love to triumph o'er the grave,
keep us still that we may find for us your will
given your life to end hostility and strife, Your

send us forth with power endowed. Help us, God, be renewed.
let our hearts with love be stirred. Help us, God, know your word.
seek your guidance every day. Teach us, God, how to pray.
grace we must be mindful of. Teach us, God, how to love.
Let There Be Light, O God of Hosts

William M. Voites, 1908; alt.

1 Let there be light, O God of hosts!
2 Within our passioned hearts in still
3 Give us the peace of senses clear
4 Let woe and waste of warfare cease,

Let there be wisdom on the earth!
The calm that ends all strain and strife;
To know our neighbors' good our own;
That useful labor yet may build

Let broad humanity have birth!
Make us your ministers of life;
To hope and suffer not alone;
Its homes with love and laughter filled!

Let there be deeds, instead of boasts!
Purge us from lusts that curse and kill!
Bonded in love that conquers fear!
God, give your wayward children peace!