



May 24, 2020
The Seventh Sunday in Easter

"I have so much to do that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer."
-Martin Luther

"I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God. It changes me." - C.S. Lewis

Order of Worship


Prelude	<i>The Lord's Prayer</i> Patty Sempell	Malotte
Sharing of Peace		Robert McClellan
Introit	(leader sings once and all join in two additional times) Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this place. Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.	
Call to Worship		Bethany Nelson
	One: The question is not whether God is big enough to hear our prayers. Many: The question is how to pray so that we have expanded enough to hear the answers. One: We offer our joys, our sorrows, and our questions. Many: Transform us by your Holy Spirit.	
Hymn	<i>Be Thou My Vision</i>	No. 450

THE WORD

450


Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) E^b (G) A^b (D/F#) E^b/G (A7) B^b7 (D) E^b




1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) B^b (D) E^b (G) A^b (A) B^b




naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) A^b (D) E^b (F#m7) Gm7 (G) A^b (A) B^b



thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) Cm (D/F#) E^b/G (G) A^b (D) E^b



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

Welcome and Community Prayer

Jeff Shankle

Gracious and loving God, we pray to you not even fully knowing what prayer is. We trust that we are to share what is truly on our hearts, that it is safe to be open with you. Restore any broken trust we have inherited or adopted. Forgive us if we have assumed you to be the fulfiller of our every whim and desire. Allow us to seek not merely the manifestation of our own plans, but to faithfully inhabit the surprises of this life. Change us even as we seek to change you. Amen.

Silence & Assurance

Time of Discovery

Bethany Nelson

Our Westminster

Randy Huyser
Video Check in from Westminster Member, Friend, Family

Joys and Concerns and The Lord's Prayer

Bethany Nelson

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.

Anthem

Sweet Hour of Prayer

arr. RuthE. Wells

Scripture Readings

First Reading

Jeff Shankle

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

- 1 Let God rise up, let his enemies be scattered;
let those who hate him flee before him.
- 2 As smoke is driven away, so drive them away;
as wax melts before the fire,
let the wicked perish before God.
- 3 But let the righteous be joyful;
let them exult before God;
let them be jubilant with joy.
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his name;
lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds —
his name is the LORD —
be exultant before him.

- 5 Father of orphans and protector of widows
is God in his holy habitation.
- 6 God gives the desolate a home to live in;
he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,
but the rebellious live in a parched land.
- 7 O God, when you went out before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad;
you restored your heritage when it languished;
- 10 your flock found a dwelling in it;
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.
- 32 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord,
- 33 O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.
- 34 Ascribe power to God,
whose majesty is over Israel;
and whose power is in the skies.
- 35 Awesome is God in his sanctuary,
the God of Israel;
he gives power and strength to his people.

Second Reading

Robert McClellan

Acts 1:6-14

6So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” 9When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 11They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

12Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. 13When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. 14All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Sermon

A Surprising Direction

Robert McClellan

Silent Reflection

Doxology

609

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures

high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise

God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it

one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Life of the Beloved Community

Jeff Shankle

Hymn

Spirit, Open My Heart

No. 692

692 Spirit, Open My Heart

Refrain Capo 3: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A7)
F B \flat F B \flat C7

Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of

(Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7) (Bm) (D/A) (Em)
Dm F/C B \flat C7 Dm F/C Gm

liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing

(D) (G) (Em7) (D) (G) (D)
F B \flat Gm7 F B \flat F

and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

(D) (G) (D) (G)
F B \flat F B \flat

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

(A7) (Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7)
C7 Dm F/C B \flat C7

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
sis - ter, broth - er. In the wel - come of

(Bm) (Em7) (D) (G2) (G)
Dm Gm7 F B \flat 2 B \flat

to Refrain

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
Christ, may we wel - come one an - oth - er.

The pace and diversity of modern life often hinder us from remaining vulnerable to our emotions and to the humanness of other people. This prayerful text to be open to such joys and pains draws on Ezekiel 11:19 and 36:26 in stanza one and echoes Jeremiah 31:33 in stanza two.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1994

MUSIC: Irish melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011

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Music Harm. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

Irregular

Benediction

Robert McClellan