

HOPE CHURCH  
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
DISABILITY AWARENESS SUNDAY

October 14, 2018 ~ 11:00 AM

THE APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE *Harmony and Counterpoint in C (Lydian)*

James Woodman

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP *Come to the Waters* (sung in Swahili)

Mark Sedio

Come to the waters, the waters of life;  
We live refreshed;  
by dying and rising together with Jesus  
We are healed; made whole.

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

Holy God, river of life,  
you are the everlasting wellspring  
and fountain of resurrection.

**Blessed are you, holy God,  
Creator of the waters of the earth,  
quenching our thirst with your grace.**

People of God,  
we are buried with Christ in his death  
**and raised with Christ to true life.**  
We are God's work of art, created in Jesus Christ  
to embody God's grace in the world.

**Praise and thanks to God,  
whose Spirit unites us as God's children  
in the waters of baptism.**

RESPONSE *Wash Me in the Water*



Wash me in the wa - ter; the riv-er of God is pure.



Heal me! Lord have mer - cy: your prom-ise and power are sure.

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\*Congregation to rise in body or spirit

**Bold type indicates congregational response**

\*SALUTATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *God Be the Love*



God be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice;



God, be the strength to now up-hold me. O Christ, sur-round me.

Creator of Life, we fill our lives with what is empty;  
we hold onto what is sinful and broken.

**We offer to you our repentance and our need;  
give to us your forgiveness and grace.**

*prayer continues in stillness*

Loving Jesus Christ, we fill our lives with fear;  
we hold onto what is anxious and divisive.

**We offer to you our faith and love that overcomes fear;  
give to us your hope and wisdom for true life.**

*prayer continues in stillness*

Giving Spirit, we close our hearts to your fullness,  
we hold onto life and resources that are not ours but yours.

**We offer to you our lives, who we are and what we have,  
and ask you to renew in us your abundant gifts  
to receive and share with all your children.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND GOD'S GUIDE FOR GRATEFUL LIVING

\*ACCLAMATION

CHU LEUNG

Hal - le! Hal - le - lu jah! Hal - le! Hal - le!

Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le! Hal - le! Hal - le - lu - jah!

\*THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**THE WORD OF GOD**

WORD WITH THE CHILDREN

*Children ages 3 through grade 5 leave for Children in Worship*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Job 23.1-9, 16-17

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

p. 409

PSALM 90

Teach us to know the short-ness of our days;

may wis - dom dwell with - in our hearts.

So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.  
Turn, O Lord! How long? Have compassion on your servants!  
Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,  
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. **Refrain**

Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil.  
Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.  
Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands—  
O prosper the work of our hands! **Refrain**

THE EPISTLE LESSON Hebrews 4.12-16

p. 972

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL LESSON Mark 10.17-31

p. 822

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON *Reclaiming Emptiness*

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ~ *silent meditation*

### THE RESPONSE TO GOD

\*CONFESSION OF FAITH

*from the Belhar Confession 1986, South Africa*

**We believe in the Triune God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation  
is made manifest in the Church  
as the community of believers**

**who have been reconciled with God and with one another;  
we believe that unity in the Church must become visible  
so that the world may see that separation, enmity and hatred  
between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered;  
we believe that through God's life-giving Word and Spirit  
we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully  
to be of benefit and blessing to one another.**

**We share one faith, have one calling,  
are of one soul and one mind;  
are filled with one Spirit,  
are baptized with one baptism,  
eat of one bread and drink of one cup,  
confess one name, are obedient to one Lord,  
work for one cause, and share one hope,  
as together we serve God in this world.**

LIFE OF HOPE

WITNESS TO INCLUSION

Good-ness is strong-er than e - vil: Love is strong-er than hate.  
 light is strong-er than dark - ness; life is strong-er than death;  
 vic-t'ry is ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through him who loved us.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION: *A Prayer For Each Other*

Let us pray for all God's people:

For people who are blind or cannot see well,  
 and for people who can see but do not see those in need;

**Lord, in your mercy, make us see you and each other.**

For people who are slow and cannot move well,  
 and for people who are fast but will not slow their pace;

**Lord, in your mercy, help us move in step with you.**

For people who are deaf or cannot hear well,  
 and for people who can hear but block out cries of pain;

**Lord, in your mercy, make us hear you and each other.**

For people who learn slowly or cannot think well,  
 and for people who learn quickly but who close their minds;

**Lord, in your mercy, help us search and learn from you.**

For people who are sad and cannot cheer up,  
 and for people who are happy and avoid all pain;

**Lord, in your mercy, make us know you and each other.**

For people who are sick and cannot get better,  
 and for people who are well but do not thank you for health;

**Lord, in your mercy, help us serve you while we can.**

For people who are kind and serve the needy,  
 and for people who are awkward in the face of need;

**Lord, in your mercy, make us know we need each other.**

For people who feel trapped by their impairments,  
 and for people who feel strong and add to that despair;

**Lord, in your mercy, help us set each other free.**

For people who feel worthless and unlovely,  
and for people who feel proud and do not prize your love;

**Lord, in your mercy, make us know your love together.**

For all the people in your whole creation,  
that we may cherish each other and learn to live in peace;

**Lord, in your mercy, teach us love and give us peace.**

**Amen.**

OFFERING *Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad and pass it back.*

Offertory Every Eye is Different

Tice/Kantor

Ev'ry eye is different, catching different light cast from different angles,  
giving us our sight. Seeing different colors paints the world we know,  
indistinct or focused, as our eyes will show, as our eyes will show.  
Some see with their fingers, knowing differently what those take for granted  
who use eyes to see. Even with a scripture, we all hold as true,  
each one sees uniquely what it says to do.  
How are we to worship when our neighbor's sight seems to be in error,  
while our own seems right? Knowing God created ev'ry person's heart,  
bearing God's own image is a faithful start.  
Every mind is different, made uniquely good bearing different lifetimes  
not all understood. Giving thanks for difference, seeing gifts in all,  
is not wishful thinking, but a holy call, but a holy call.

\*Doxology *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise God, all creatures here below;**

**praise God above, ye heavenly host;**

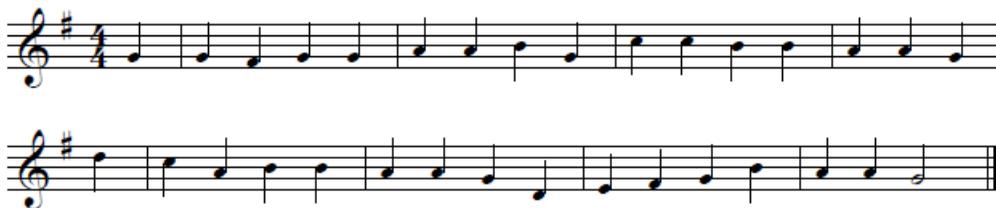
**\*praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*or Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost, Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*RECESSIONAL *When Hands Reach Out*

Tallis Cannon



1. When hands reach out and fingers trace the beauty of a loved one's face, we thank you, God, that love relies on gifts of grace not seen with eyes.
2. When fingers spell and signs express our prayer and praise and thankfulness, we thank you, God, that hands can sing; you bless the silent songs we bring.
3. When broken bodies will not mend, we thank you, God, for Christ our Friend. In him, our healing can begin: he welcomes all the wounded in.
4. And when the ways we learn and grow are not the ways that others know, we thank you, God, that we have learned your love's a gift, and never earned.
5. Your Spirit gives us differing ways to serve you well and offer praise. When all are joined as one, we'll be your able, strong community.

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Passacaglia*

Raymond Haan

*Those wishing to listen to the postlude are welcome to remain in the sanctuary.*

Wash me in the Water, Music and text by John Bell, © 2000 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Hallelujah refrain, © 2000, 2010 Swee Hong Lim, admin. General Board of Global Ministries t/a GBGMusik. &  
God be the Love to Search and Keep Me, text and tune by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan © 2004 This Here Music,  
www.worldmaking.net & Psalm 90 refrain, text and tune by Hal Hopson © 1998 Hope Publishing Company &  
Goodness is Stronger Than Evil, text by Desmond Tutu, from "An African Prayer Book" © 1995 Desmond Tutu (Admin.  
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This responsive prayer was written by Rev. Kate Chipps and adapted by Ginny Thornburgh. It is from "That All May Worship: An Interfaith Welcome to People with Disabilities" (National Organization on Disability, 1997, p. 14)

**TODAY**

Assisting in worship today are Pastor Jill Russell, preacher; Pastor Beth Carroll, liturgist; processional cross is carried today by a representative from Chancel Choir; Chancel Choir directed by Brian Carder; Rayetta Perez, reader; and Rhonda Edgington, organist.

Music Notes: Raymond Haan was born in 1938 and attended Calvin College and University of Michigan. He has published hundreds of compositions for organ, choir, handbells, voice, piano, and other instruments. Haan has been director of music at the Culterville East CRC in Grand Rapids since 1960. His Passacaglia is headed with this quote from Psalm 145 -