



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 25, 2023

* *Please stand if you are able*

Prelude: "Here I Am to Worship" and "In Christ Alone" Ellen Elwell

Gathering

WELCOME & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Acolyte: May the Holy Spirit unit us in worship, point us toward Jesus Christ, and inspire us to love mercy, do justice, and walk humbly with God. Come, let us worship God.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Among the gods there is none like you, Lord; no deeds can compare with yours.

All: **All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, Lord; they will bring glory to your name.**

Liturgist: For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God.
Psalm 86:8-10

* **All Singing:** **572 "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"**
Singing verses 1, 3, and 4

* GOD'S GREETING

* GOD'S PEOPLE GREETING ONE ANOTHER

* **All Singing:** **533 "I Come with Joy"**
Singing verses 1 – 5

Children ages 2–7 may come forward for a brief word and blessing before they leave for "God Loves Me" and "Children in Worship."

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Children: The peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.

Reconciliation

Liturgist: Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness;
All: give me an undivided heart that I may fear your name.

Liturgist: I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever.
All: For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths, from the realm of the dead.

Liturgist: You, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.
All: Turn to me and have mercy on me....

Psalm 86:11-16 adapted

Silent Reflection and Confession

All Singing: 639 "Lord, Have Mercy"

Liturgist: Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

All: We were therefore buried into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Liturgist: If we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.

All: For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin –

Liturgist: because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

All: Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

Liturgist: The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

All: In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.
Romans 6:3-11 adapted

* **All Singing: He Will Hold Me Fast"**
Soloist singing first verse and chorus; all joining on verse 2

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail, he will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold; he must hold me fast

He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast,
For my Savior loves me so. He will hold me fast.

**Those he saves are his delight. Christ will hold me fast
Precious in his holy sight, he will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost, his promises shall last
Bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast**

Refrain:

**He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast,
For my Savior loves me so. He will hold me fast.**

**For my life he bled and died; Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied, he will hold me fast
Raised with him to endless life, he will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight when he comes at last**

Proclamation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**All: God, our helper, by your Holy Spirit open our minds and lead us into your truth
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Scripture: Genesis 21:1-21

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Brittle Saints and Supple Grace

* **All Singing: 689 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"**

Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgist: With joy, let us now offer our gifts, in music, heart, and resource, as a sign of
our deep devotion and covenant faithfulness.

OFFERING

1. General Fund
2. Chicago Christian Counseling Center

OFFERTORY "You Are Mine"

Mark Hayes

Communion

INSTITUTION
THANKSGIVING
INVITATION
COMMUNION

**All Singing: 825 "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"
174 "I Stand Amazed" *Standing to sing last verse***

Sending

* BENEDICTION

Postlude: "Now Thank We All Our God"

Kaufmann

Worship Leaders

Prelude Pianist: Charlotte Lydon
Organist: Dora Diephouse
Pianist / Vocalist: Erin Pacheco
Guitarist / Vocalist: Moises Pacheco
Percussionist: Eric Robbert
Minister: Roger Nelson

Acolyte: Penelope Lydon
Liturgist: Natalie Van't Land
Prayer: Luke Van't Land

Hymns are from *Lift Up Your Hearts* (Faith Alive Christian Resources, 2013)
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