

Order of Service, Sunday 18th July 2021

Music

Call to worship: “For you Lord are with me; your rod and your staff - they comfort me.”
(Ps 23)

We stand for the hymns.

Hymn: Stand up and bless the Lord

The Hymn Makers Track 5

Stand up and bless the Lord,
ye people of his choice;
stand up and bless the Lord your God,
with heart and soul and voice.

Though high above all praise,
above all blessing high,
who would not fear his holy Name,
and laud and magnify?

O for the living flame
from His own altar brought,
to touch our lips, our minds inspire,
and wing to heaven our thought!

God is our Strength and Song,
and his salvation ours;
then be his love in Christ proclaimed
with all our ransomed powers.

Stand up and bless the Lord,
ye people of his choice;
stand up and bless the Lord your God.
with heart and soul and voice.

Stand up and bless the Lord;
the Lord your God adore;
stand up and bless his glorious Name;
henceforth forevermore.

James Montgomery

Prayers of thanksgiving and confession

Bible Reading: Ephesians 2: 11-22

So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called ‘the uncircumcision’ by those who are called ‘the circumcision’—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

Reflection: No longer...

Tom Wheeler will sing: “Lord God of Israel.”

Dedication of the Offering.

We end with the words of The Grace, said together.

Prayers of intercession – Prepared by Rev Roy Lowes and led by Wally Knight.

Communion -as we have done the last few times, please take a glass with the bread (gluten free) and one with the wine.

Hymn: “For ever with the Lord!”

The Hymn Makers Track 13

“Forever with the Lord!”
Amen, so let it be!
Life from His death is in that word,
’Tis immortality.
Here in the body pent,
Absent from Him I roam,
Yet nightly pitch my moving tent
A day’s march nearer home

My Father’s house on high,
Home of my soul, how near
At times to faith’s foreseeing eye
Thy golden gates appear!
Ah! then my spirit faints
To reach the land I love,
The bright inheritance of saints,
Jerusalem above.

“Forever with the Lord!”
Father, it ‘tis Thy will,
The promise of that faithful word,
Lord, here in me fulfill.
Be Thou at my right hand,
Then can I never fail;
Uphold Thou me, Lord, and I shall stand,
Through grace I will prevail.

So when my latest breath
Breaks through the veil of pain,
By death I shall escape from death,
And life eternal gain.
That resurrection-word,
That shout of victory:
Once more, “Forever with the Lord!”
Amen, so let it be!

James Montgomery

Blessing

Music

Note: there may be a slight discrepancy between the printed words and the sung words, as it depends on the chosen version on the CD.