

**20th Sunday after Pentecost  
October 18, 2020**

**Gathering  
God invites us to enter His presence**

**Prelude**

*My Jesus. I Love Thee  
My Faith Looks Up To Thee  
Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

*Gordon  
Mason*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Preparation for Worship** (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

**✠ Call to Worship**

*Hob Pusey*

Let us worship God.

**“He is our refuge and our fortress,  
our God, in whom we trust.”**

Let us confess with our mouths, “Jesus is Lord,”  
and believe in our hearts that God raised him from the dead.

**“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”**

Let us call upon our true God, believing him in our hearts,  
confessing him with our mouths, worshiping him in spirit and in truth.

**✠ Invocation**

*Hob Pusey*

God, our Rock, our refuge, our resting place,  
we come to you.

Out of another busy week of work,  
out of our struggles to be meaningful in our world,  
out of our desire to meet you and know you  
as the center of our being,  
we come to you, O unmovable Rock of our security. **Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise 43**

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

*Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;  
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.*

*Refrain.*

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto Thee!*

*Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest;  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.  
Refrain.*

*Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!  
Refrain.*

**Confessing**  
**God invites us to be honest with Him**

**Prayer of Confession**  
*(Responsively)*

*Hob Pusey*

O God, you have shown us the way of life  
through your Son, Jesus Christ.  
We confess with shame our slowness to learn of him,  
our failure to follow him, and our reluctance to bear the cross.  
**Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.**  
We confess the poverty of our worship,  
our neglect of fellowship and of the means of grace,  
our hesitating witness for Christ,  
our evasion of responsibilities in our service,  
our imperfect stewardship of your gifts.  
**Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us. Amen.**

**Time for Silent Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

*Hob Pusey*

While I kept silence, my body wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.  
For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;  
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.  
Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not hide my iniquity;  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"  
and you forgave the guilt of my sin. **Amen.**

*Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord*  
**All: Thanks be to God!**

**🕯 Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost:  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.*

*A-men, A-men.*

**Offering**

***Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him***

**Invitation** Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**Offering** *\*Please place your offerings in the plate in the back of the church on your way out.*

**Special Music** *His Eye is on the Sparrow* Burgess  
*Fairview Women's Ensemble*

**! Doxology** *Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

**! Prayer of Dedication**

Giving God, just as we love because you first loved us,  
we give because you first gave to us.  
Out of gratitude we bring gifts of money to be used for your  
kingdom work.  
With these gifts we also pledge to you our whole selves.  
We give you our bodies as living temples; may we be your  
hands and feet.  
We give you our minds; may our thoughts support others  
and glorify you.  
We give you our time; may our presence encourage others.  
We give you our relationships; may our interactions be a  
light to the world.  
We give you our work; may we always strive to do our best  
and help others do theirs.  
We give you our play; may our leisure bring joy to many.  
We give you our hopes and our dreams; may our goals  
reflect your mission.  
Use these gifts, great God, through the power of your Holy  
Spirit. **Amen.**

**Proclaiming**  
***God speaks to us through His Word***

**Prayer of Illumination**

**Scripture Lesson**

*Ruth 1:14-22*

<sup>14</sup> Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

<sup>15</sup> And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." <sup>16</sup> But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. <sup>17</sup> Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." <sup>18</sup> And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

<sup>19</sup> So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. And when they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them. And the women said, "Is this Naomi?" <sup>20</sup> She said to them, "Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. <sup>21</sup> I went away full, and the LORD has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi, when the LORD has testified against me and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?"

<sup>22</sup> So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabite her daughter-in-law with her, who returned from the country of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest.

**Sermon**

*"The Determination of Ruth"*  
*Rev. Tim Latham*

**Responding**  
***We respond to God's Word***

**Hymn of Response**

*Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*

*Jesus I my cross have taken  
All to leave and follow You  
Son of man despised forsaken  
Lord of all I am or do  
Perish every fond ambition  
All I've sought and hoped and known  
Yet how rich is my condition  
God and heaven are still my own*

*Let the world despise and leave me  
They have left my Saviour too  
Human hearts and looks deceive me  
You are not like them untrue  
And while You shall smile upon me  
God of wisdom love and might*

*Foes may hate and friends may shun me  
Show Your face and all is bright*

*Those who trouble and distress me  
Drive me to Your presence blessed  
Life with bitter trials may press me  
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest  
How could grief or sorrow harm me  
While my heart still feels Your love  
How could this world's pleasures charm me  
When You are my joy above*

*Take my soul His full salvation  
Conquer every sin and care  
Find in every situation  
Joy and peace and service there  
Think what Spirit dwells within you  
What a Father loves you yet  
What a Saviour died to win you  
Child of heaven why should you fret*

*Onward then from grace to glory  
Armed by faith and spurred by prayer  
Heaven's eternal day's before me  
God's own hand shall guide me there  
Soon shall close my earthly mission  
Swiftly pass my pilgrims days  
Hope soon change to glad fruition  
Faith to sight and prayer to praise*

## Profession of Faith

**We believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
begotten from the Father before all ages,  
God from God,  
Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made;  
of the same essence as the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and was made human.  
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried.**

**The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.  
He ascended to heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again with glory  
to judge the living and the dead.  
His kingdom will never end.  
And we believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life.  
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.  
He spoke through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,  
and to life in the world to come. Amen.

### Prayers of the People/Lord's Prayer

#### Commissioning

*God sends us out into the world as His witnesses*

#### Hymn 275     *How Firm A Foundation*

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
What more can He say than to you He hath said,  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

*Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand*

*When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply:  
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.*

*The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake!*

#### **Benediction & Blessing**

#### **Organ Postlude**

*Prelude in F*

*Bach*