

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST **JULY 26, 2020**

*Our altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in memory of Anita Wilson by Ellen and Ray Cook.*

*No matter what happened yesterday,
now is the time to call upon God,
to lay our lives before our creator,
and to proclaim God's wonderful deeds to one another.
Now is the time to worship...*



CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord!

We gather to sing praises to God.

Praise the Lord!

We gather to give thanks for all God has done in our lives.

Praise the Lord!

We gather to worship our creator, redeemer, and sustainer.

GATHERING AND GREETING

Rachel and Leah

Chava Rosenfarb

Rachel plays on the mandolin and

Leah plays on the flute.

*Between them the Shekhina lays out the cards
and seeks an exact account.*

*Leah will have two eyes that are dim, but a large and hungry heart.
Rachel will have luck in love and braids that are darker than dark.
Leah will have passionate dreams, and on her lips—a trembling song.*

*But Jacob, the man from distant lands,
will only see that her eyes are not strong.*

*Rachel will bewitch the foreigner Jacob;
her beauty will be pleasing to him.*

So what if she does not have passionate dreams?

At least her eyes are not dim.

Leah will die after a long life, but her heart's longing will never abate.

*Rachel, sated with love, will die young,
with the black shining still in her plaits.*

*Rachel plays on the mandolin and
Leah plays on the flute.*

*Between the two women, the Shekhina is smiling.
She now knows how each life will conclude.*



HOLY, HOLY, HOLY! **LORD GOD ALMIGHTY**

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*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

*Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.*

*Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.*

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*



PRAYER

The holy love of God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Holy One, we come before you with sighs too deep for words. We come with hearts overwhelmed - by the world, by personal relationships, and by inward struggles. We come to praise your name and to be reassured of your unending grace. In this time and place, open our hearts to your presence. Open our ears to hear your word proclaimed. Open our hands to serve you and the world. May our lives reflect the Holy Spirit's loving presence, who guides us and gives us wisdom to trust your work in the world.

THE LORD'S PRAYER



I WANT A PRINCIPLE WITHIN

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I want a principle within of watchful, godly fear,
a sensibility of sin, a pain to feel it near.
I want the first approach to feel of pride or wrong desire,
to catch the wandering of my will,
and quench the kindling fire.



THE RED STEPS a moment for children



Jacob Worked For Laban
Genesis 29:1-30



OFFERING

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Traditional Hymn Tune, arranged by Virgil Thomson
soloist, Randy Bunnell

*My Shepherd will supply my need: Jehovah is His Name;
In pastures fresh He makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake His ways,
And leads me for His mercy's sake in paths of truth and grace.*

*When I walk through the shades of death Thy presence is my stay;
A word of Thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes doth still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows, Thine oil anoints my head.*

*The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may Thy house be my abode and all my work be praise!
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
No more a stranger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.*



GENESIS 29: 15-20

Then Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah’s eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.



GENESIS 29: 21-28

Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.



HOMILY

*Good Ol' Fashioned Family Values: Biblically Speaking
(An Ode to Leah)*



ANTHEM



INVITATION



Watercolor of Rayne by Rev. Ann Sutton



WHERE CHARITY AND LOVE PREVAIL

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Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear true charity we learn;
let us with heart and mind and strength now love Christ in return.

Forgive we now each other's faults as we our faults confess;
and let us love each other well in Christian holiness.

Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease;
be Christ the glory that we seek, be ours God's holy peace.

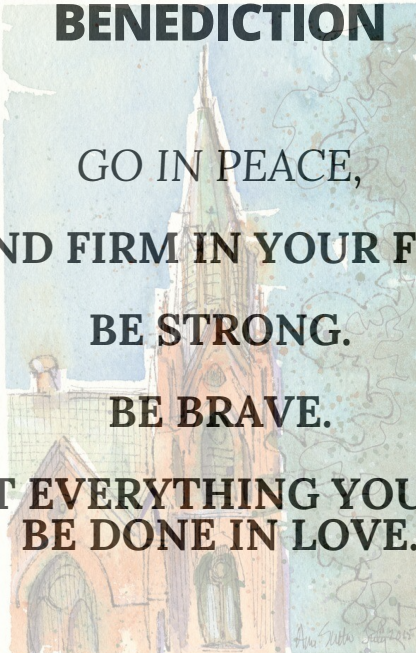
Let us recall that in our midst dwells God's begotten Son;
as members of his body joined, we are in Christ made one.

Love can exclude no race or creed if honored be God's name;
our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.



BENEDICTION

GO IN PEACE,
STAND FIRM IN YOUR FAITH.
BE STRONG.
BE BRAVE.
LET EVERYTHING YOU DO
BE DONE IN LOVE.



Watercolor of Rayne by Rev. Ann Sutton