

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 9: 6-9

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

HOMILY *Abundance and the Gift of "Superplus"*
(The Gospel According to Gillian and Honeybees)

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION* *see insert*

We welcome you, as your mask remains on, to come forward to share the Bread and Cup. Upon receiving the Meal, simply remove your mask at that moment, then return to your pew with your mask on. Or, if you would like to remain where you are, we welcome you to utilize the Communion packet at your pew. Please leave your empty communion packet on the pew as you depart.

HYMN* *God of Love and God of Power, 578*

BENEDICTION Go now in peace.
Stand firm in your faith. Be strong. Be brave.
Let everything you do be done in love.

POSTLUDE

OFFERING— Your generosity and gifts enable Rayne's ministries, thank you! Offerings will be received in the box on the table in the rear of the sanctuary behind the last pew. You can also give online (raynenola.org/contribute), by texting "giverayne" to 73256, or using the QR code.



WE WELCOME ALL— All are invited to participate fully in the life of this community of faith and love regardless of race, class, gender, or sexual orientation. We welcome all with open hearts, open minds, and open doors! Those who wish to become members are encouraged to contact: jay@raynenola.org.



Rayne
Memorial United Methodist Church

for 145 years shining the light of God's love and grace

3900 Saint Charles Avenue - New Orleans, Louisiana 70115
504.899.3431 - www.raynenola.org

World Communion and Commitment Sunday

October 3, 2021



THE CELEBRATION OF THE GOSPEL

Welcome to All!

All are invited to participate in any of our activities,
and to become a part of this community of faith and love.

GATHERING

Rev. Jay Hogewood

Jesus, you praised work more than words, foundations more than fashion. May we find our foundation in the work of Love; demanding, tiring, true and human and holy. Because Love is the only foundation worth building on. Amen.

~ Daily Prayer (Corrymeela Community)

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP* *responsively* Rev. Marissa Teauseau Horwath

Let the nations be glad! Let all the people of every tongue sing for joy. For you, O Lord, judge us with equity and grace; you guide all the nations upon the earth.

Let all the peoples praise you, O God! Let all the peoples praise you for your never-ending love.

The earth has brought forth its fruit. God gives us resources for God's glory. May the Holy Spirit inspire us to receive mercy and to share mercy.

Let all the peoples praise you, O God! Let all the peoples praise you for your never-ending love.

HYMN*

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty, 64

PRAYER *responsively*

The overwhelming love of God in Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray responsively: Almighty and all-loving Lord: from the ends of the earth, you have gathered us around Christ's holy table.

We come to feast together.

Have mercy on your church, troubled and divided.

Renew us and make us one.

O God, we join with your children around the world. We remember the nature of Christ's sacrificial love. We give you thanks for the opportunity to eat and drink as one, though many. We praise you for the life we have received. In the abundance of your many gifts, grant us grace to fill one another's lives with love. Redeem and restore us until we are made new for the work of faith in this world. Transform our daily bread into the bread of life, and the cup that we drink into the cup of salvation. We pray in Jesus's name. Amen.

**The People Standing*

THE RED STEPS

A Special Time for Our Children

At this time, children age 3 years old through 2nd grade may attend children's church in the education building.

MINISTRY MOMENT

Mary Brown, 8:45am
Andee Reed, 11am

OFFERING

During the time of Communion, as you come forward to receive the Meal, please consider placing your stewardship pledge card in the basket on the Communion rail. Or you may simply place the pledge card in the offering plate at this time.

Randy Bunnell, 8:45am

Eternal Life

(A Prayer By St. Francis of Assisi)

Olive Dungan

Lord make me an instrument of thy peace:
where there is hatred let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.
O divine master grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled
as to console, to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it's in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Rebecca Sullivant, 11am

Rejoice, O My Spirit

J.S. Bach arr. James Easson

Rejoice, O my spirit, be comforted now.
From Death, by thy Savior, redeemed art thou!
The fury of Hell and of Satan is past.
No more his dark shadows can Death over us cast.
Against all defiance thus shall I stand fast.

Rejoice, O my spirit and sing with full heart to worship thy Savior.
Redeemed thou art! Now glory is filling the whole world with light.
The sun is fully risen, there is no more night.
For God is among us in power and might!

HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty, 64

1. 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!
2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
3. 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.
4. 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.

HYMN

God of Love and God of Power, 578

1. God of love and God of power, grant us in this burning hour grace to ask these gifts of thee, daring hearts and spirits free. God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.
2. We are not the first to be banished by our fears from thee; give us courage, let us hear heaven's trumpets ringing clear. God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.
3. All our lives belong to thee, thou our final loyalty; slaves are we whene'er we share that devotion anywhere. God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.
4. God of love and God of power, make us worthy of this hour; offering lives if it's thy will, keeping free our spirits still. God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

All are welcome at the table!

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION

God, you are the source of all that makes life possible.

You are the giver of all that makes life good.

We give you our thanks and praise;

yet we confess that we have often failed to live out our thankfulness.

We confess we often take for granted what you have given us;
and we sometimes grumble about what we lack.

We have squandered the abundance of your creation,
and we struggle to serve as faithful stewards.

Forgive us, O God.

In this time of worship, accept our thanksgiving,
and teach us by your grace to make gratitude and sharing our way of life.

(silent confession)

PARDON

Hear the good news: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

And so in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.