

SCRIPTURE

Mark 12:38-44

As he taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation." He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

HOMILY

Present to What Is Actually Happening

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION*

see insert

Let Us Break Bread Together, 618

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*

How Firm a Foundation, 529

BENEDICTION

Go now in peace.

Stand firm in your faith. Be strong. Be brave.

Let everything you do be done in love.

POSTLUDE

Rondeau from Abdelazer

Henry Purcell, 11am

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

Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

November 7, 2021



Our altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Jane Stennett on her birthday by Stephanie Stennett.

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

O God, you are on the side of justice and you call your people to be on that side too. Where people are shoved off food-growing land so a few can make big profits, where children work in factories for pennies, where women ruin their health to feed their families, not in the world of the past but the world of today...

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.

Forgive us, God, if we profit from the suffering of others, remind us that we have power in our choices if we act together. Lead us to choose justice in our politics, in our economies, in our churches.

Justice, beginning where we are. ~ Iona Community, The Pattern of Our Days

PRELUDE

Adoro te devote

Everett Titcomb, 11am

Marcus St. Julien

CALL TO WORSHIP* *responsively*

Love the Lord your God. **We love with all our heart.**

Love the Lord your God. **We love with all our soul.**

Love the Lord your God. **We love with all our mind.**

Love the Lord your God. **We love with all our strength.**

HYMN*

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens, 150

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *responsively*

The peace and power of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Let us affirm our faith together:

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God; who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

**The People Standing*

SUNG RESPONSE

O Spirit of the Living God, 539, verses 1 & 3

O Spirit of the living God,
thou light and fire divine,
descend upon thy church once
more, and make it truly thine.
Fill it with love and joy and
power, with righteousness and
peace, till Christ shall
dwell in human hearts, and sin
and sorrows cease.

Teach us to utter living words of
truth which all may hear, the
language all may understand
when love speaks loud and clear;
till every age and race and clime
shall blend their creeds in one,
and earth shall form one
family by whom thy will is done.

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.*

OFFERING *Ushers with offering plates will pass by each pew. Please pass your
gift to the usher or place in the box on the table in the rear of the sanctuary.*

Cassie Segal, 8:45am

The Heavens are Declaring

adapted by Dudley Buck, music by Beethoven

The heaven are declaring the Lord's
endless glory. Thro' all the earth his
praise is found. The seas re-echo
the marvelous story. O, man repeat
that glorious sound. The starry
host He orders and measures, He
fills the morning's golden springs.
He wakes the sun from his night
curtained slumbers, Oh man adore
the King of Kings. Oh man adore
the King of Kings.

What power and splendor and wis-
dom and order. In nature's mighty
plan unrolled. Thro space and time
to infinity's border. What wonders
vast and manifold. The earth is His,
and the heavens o'er it bending.
The Maker in his works behold! He
is and will be, thro ages unending,
A God of strength and long untold,
A God of strength and love untold.

Leonard Raybon, 11am

The Gift of Love

Hal Hopson

Though I may speak with bravest
fire, and have the gift to all
inspire, and have not love, my
words are vain, as sounding
brass, and hopeless gain.
Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,

the profit soon turns strangely
thin.
Come, Spirit, come, our hearts
control, our spirits long to be
made whole. Let inward love
guide every deed; by this we
worship, and are freed.

HYMN

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens, 150

1. God, who stretched the spangled heavens, infinite in time and place, flung the suns in burning radiance through the silent fields of space, we your children, in your likeness, share inventive powers with you. Great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.
2. Proudly rise our modern cities, stately buildings, row on row; yet their windows, blank, unfeeling, stare on canyoned streets below, where the lonely drift unnoticed in the city's ebb and flow, lost to purpose and to meaning, scarcely caring where they go.
3. We have ventured worlds undreamed of since the childhood of our race; known the ecstasy of winging through untraveled realms of space; probed the secrets of the atom, yielding unimagined power, facing us with life's destruction or our most triumphant hour.
4. As each far horizon beckons, may it challenge us anew, children of creative purpose, serving others, honoring you. May our dreams prove rich with promise, each endeavor well begun. Great Creator, give us guidance till our goals and yours are one.

COMMUNION HYMN

Let Us Break Bread Together, 618

1. Let us break bread together on our knees, (on our knees) let us break bread together on our knees. (on our knees) When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)
2. Let us drink wine together on our knees, (on our knees) let us drink wine together on our knees. (on our knees) When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)
3. Let us praise God together on our knees, (on our knees) let us praise God together on our knees. (on our knees) When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)
4. Let us praise God together on our knees, (on our knees) let us praise God together on our knees. (on our knees) When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy if you please. (if you please)

HYMN

How Firm a Foundation, 529

1. 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?
2. "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God and will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.
3. "When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow; for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.
4. "When through fiery trials thy pathways 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.
5. "The soul that on Jesus still leans 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."

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

**We have not done your will; we have broken your law;
we have rebelled against your love; we have not loved our neighbors;
and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(silent confession)

PARDON

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
this proves God's love toward us.

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.