

Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 25, 2021

“The Constant Prodding of the Spirit”

Two-Piano Prelude “Shall We Gather at the River?” Toni DiCapua, Mollie Wakeman

Call to Worship Ben Ball

Hymn of Praise: I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art (words on next page) no. 457

Prayer of Confession (in unison) Bob Kraut

Loving God, we confess that we are often unaware of Your presence among us. We do not see how You are moving in our lives. We do not hear Your voice, as You call us to serve You. Forgive us, we pray, and help us to be open to the movement of Your Holy Spirit in our midst. Hear us now as we silently confess our sins.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Gloria Patri

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Greetings and Announcements

Anthem: “Shall We Gather at the River?”...Lowry-Rouse Chancel Choir
Richard Dinwiddie, director; Mollie Wakeman, piano; Sharon Dinwiddie, electronic keyboard
(previously recorded; used with permission CCLI #20405356)

New Testament Reading: Acts 8:26-40

Sermon: “Divinely Directed” Rev. Anne Swanson

Hymn of Response: Open My Eyes That I May See (words on next page) no. 324

Prayers of the People Leland Morine

Closing Hymn: In Christ There Is No East or West (words on next page) no. 439

Benediction

Congregational Response: Go Now in Peace

Two-Piano Postlude “There Is a Happy Land”

I GREET THEE, WHO MY SURE REDEEMER ART

I greet Thee, who my sure Redeemer art,
My only trust and Savior of my heart,
Who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;
I pray Thee from our hearts all cares to take.

Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,
Reigning omnipotent in every place:
So come, O King, and our whole being sway;
Shine on us with the light of Thy pure day.

Thou art the life, by which alone we live,
And all our substance and our strength receive;
Sustain us by Thy faith and by Thy power,
And give us strength in every trying hour.

Our hope is in no other save in Thee;
Our faith is built upon Thy promise free;
Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,
That in Thy strength we evermore endure.

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.
Amen. Amen.

SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER? (Chancel Choir)

Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod;
With its crystal tide forever, flowing by the throne of God?

*Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river, that flows by the throne of God.*

On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
We will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day.

Ere we reach the shining river, lay we every burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown.

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver, with the melody of peace.

OPEN MY EYES, THAT I MAY SEE

Open my eyes, that I may see, glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key, that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear, voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear, gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart, and let me prepare, love with Thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST

In Christ there is no east or west, in Him no south or north;
But one great fellowship of love, throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere, their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord, close-binding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God, are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west, in Him meet south and north,
All Christly souls are one in Him, throughout the whole wide earth.

GO NOW IN PEACE

Go now in peace, never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true, know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe, reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.