



PENTECOST XVIII
10.19.2025
Persistent Listening

Announcements – Amy Sens

- **10/19 - Disability Support Lunch - 12pm downstairs after church today**
- **This Wednesday - pop-up book salon and potluck - 6pm-8pm**
- **Street Survival Kits - collecting supplies still - aiming for Nov 1 assembly**
- **October/November - Guiding Member Classes - three classes, Thursday evenings starting October 30 on Zoom**

Greeting & Orientation – Amy Sens

“Part of doing something is listening. We are listening. To the sun. To the stars. To the wind.”
- Madeleine L'Engle, *A Swiftly Tilting Planet*

Song – True Colors - Cyndi Lauper – The Band

You with the sad eyes
Don't be discouraged
Oh I realize
It's hard to take courage
In a world full of people
You can lose sight of it all
And the darkness there inside you
Can make you feel so small

But I see your true colors
Shining through
See your true colors
And that's why I love you
So don't be afraid to let them show
Your true colors
True colors are beautiful,
Like a rainbow

Show me a smile then,
Don't be unhappy, can't remember when I
last saw you laugh
If this world makes you crazy
And you've taken all you can bear
You call me up
Because you know I'll be there

And I see your true colors
Shining through
See your true colors
That's why I love you
So don't be afraid to let them show
Your true colors
True colors are beautiful,
Like a rainbow

I can't remember when I last saw you laugh

If this world makes you crazy
And you've taken all you can bear
You call me up
Because you know I'll be there

And I see your true colors
Shining through
See your true colors
That's why I love you
So don't be afraid to let them show
Your true colors
True colors are beautiful,
Like a rainbow

Community Welcome – Veena Thamilselvan

Children's Message -

God be in my head
God be in my words

God be in my heart
God be in my hands
God be in my whole self

Passing of the Peace

Reading One – Zippo by Judith Slater

I didn't think *handsome* then, I thought
my father the way he saunters down Main Street,
housewives, shopkeepers, mechanics calling out,
children running up to get Lifesavers. The way
he pauses to chat, flipping his lighter open,
tamping the Lucky Strike on his thumbnail.

I sneak into his den when he's out, tuck
into the kneehole of his desk and sniff
his Zippo until dizzy, emboldened;
then play little tricks, mixing red and black
inks in his fountain pen, twisting together
paperclips. If I lift the telephone receiver

quietly, I can listen in on our party line.
That's how I hear two women
talking about him. That's why my mother
finds me that night sleepwalking, sobbing.
"It's all right," she tells me,
"you had a nightmare, come to bed."

Psalm 23 - Ooh Child - Stan Vincent

Refrain:

Ooh, child
Things are gonna get easier
Ooh, child
Things will get brighter

The Lord is my shepherd.
I lack nothing.

He lets me rest in grassy meadows;
he leads me to restful waters;
he keeps me alive.

Refrain

She guides me in proper paths
for the sake of her good name.

Even when I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no danger because you are with me.
Your rod and your staff—
they protect me.

Refrain

You set a table for me
right in front of my enemies.
You bathe my head in oil;
my cup is so full it spills over!

Yes, goodness and faithful love
will pursue me all the days of my life,
and I will live in the Lord's house
as long as I live.

Refrain

Prayers of the People – Amy Sens

Song – I Hear a Call - Emmylou Harris – The Band

I hear a call
Now will answer
Forsake my all
To serve another
Though darkness falls
Stay a believer
I hear a call
Now will answer

I see a light Now will I follow
Fill up this life
That grows more hollow
Make joy reside
Where there lives sorrow
I see a light
Now will follow

I hear a call
From out of nowhere
And from anywhere I go
I hear a call
Now will answer

I feel a touch
Now will I hold on
Be there with love
For those with no one
With a kindness such
It lives though I'm gone
I feel a touch
Now will I hold on

I hear a call
From out of nowhere
And from everywhere I go
I see a light
Now will I follow
I feel a touch
Now will I follow
I hear a call
Now will I answer

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long are you going to grieve over Saul? I have rejected him as king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and get going. I’m sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem because I have found[a] my next king among his sons.”

“How can I do that?” Samuel asked. “When Saul hears of it he’ll kill me!”

“Take a heifer with you,” the Lord replied, “and say, ‘I have come to make a sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will make clear to you what you should do. You will anoint for me the person I point out to you.”

Samuel did what the Lord instructed. When he came to Bethlehem, the city elders came to meet him. They were shaking with fear. “Do you come in peace?” they asked.

“Yes,” Samuel answered. “I’ve come to make a sacrifice to the Lord. Now make yourselves holy, then come with me to the sacrifice.” Samuel made Jesse and his sons holy and invited them to the sacrifice as well.

When they arrived, Samuel looked at Eliab and thought, That must be the Lord’s anointed right in front.

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Have no regard for his appearance or stature, because I haven’t selected him. God[b] doesn’t look at things like humans do. Humans see only what is visible to the eyes, but the Lord sees into the heart.”

Next Jesse called for Abinadab, who presented himself to Samuel, but he said, “The Lord hasn’t chosen this one either.” So Jesse presented Shammah, but Samuel said, “No, the Lord hasn’t chosen this one.” Jesse presented seven of his sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord hasn’t picked any of these.” Then Samuel asked Jesse, “Is that all of your boys?”

“There is still the youngest one,” Jesse answered, “but he’s out keeping the sheep.”

“Send for him,” Samuel told Jesse, “because we can’t proceed until he gets here.”

So Jesse sent and brought him in. He was reddish brown, had beautiful eyes, and was good-looking. The Lord said, “That’s the one. Go anoint him.” So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him right there in front of his brothers. The Lord’s spirit came over David from that point forward.

Then Samuel left and went to Ramah.

Now the Lord’s spirit had departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord tormented him. Saul’s servants said to him, “Look, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. If our master just says the word, your servants will search for someone who knows how to play the lyre. The musician can play whenever the evil spirit from God is affecting you, and then you’ll feel better.”

Song – Let the Broken Ones be Healed - Sandra Gay - The Band

**Let the broken ones be healed
Let the lost be found and fed**

**Let the grace of God roll on
Let the river rise and spread**

**Step into the stream with me
Let God's gracious purpose be!**

Sermon – Amy Sens

Celebration and Offering

Song – We Shall Be Known - MaMuse – The Band

**We shall be known by the company we keep,
By the ones who circle round to tend these fires
We shall be known by the ones who sow and reap
The seeds of change alive from deep within the earth**

**It is time now, it is time now that we thrive
It is time we lead ourselves into the well**

**It is time now, and what a time to be alive
in this great turning we shall learn to lead in love
In this great turning we shall learn to lead in love**

Eucharist & Post Communion Prayer – Jim Hamilton

All are welcome at the Eucharistic table. If you do not wish to participate, feel free to take this time for meditation or personal reflection.

Prayer and Blessing – Jim Hamilton

Closing Announcement:

- **Disability Support Lunch - 12pm downstairs**
 - **Cleanup: altar, hospitality, name tags, chairs**
-

Song – I Can See Clearly Now - Johnny Nash - The Band

**I can see clearly now the rain is gone
I can see all obstacles in my way
Gone are the dark clouds that had me blind
It's gonna be a bright, bright sun shiny day
It's gonna be a bright, bright sun shiny day**

**I think I can make it now the pain is gone
All of the bad feelings have disappeared
Here is that rainbow I've been praying for
It's gonna be a bright (Bright), bright sun
shiny day**

**Look all around, there's nothing but blue
skies
Look straight ahead, nothing but blue skies**

**I can see clearly now; the rain is gone
I can see all obstacles in my way
Gone are the dark clouds that had me blind
It's gonna be a bright, bright sun shiny day
It's gonna be a bright, bright sun shiny day**

Dismissal – Jim Hamilton
